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THE PALL MALL GAZETTE

No. 7800.—VOL. L. *WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 19, 1890.* *Price One Penny.*

USE

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TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A MAN'S SHADOW, by ROBERT BUCHANAN. LAST TEN NIGHTS. Mr. TREE as LAROQUE and LUVERSAN. Messrs. Fernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, E. M. Robson, Allan, Hargreaves, Topping, Gurney, Horwood; Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. At 7.45, GOOD FOR NOTHING; Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. Pit Circle reserved, 5s. 6d. Gallery, 1s.
MATINEE of A MAN'S SHADOW SATURDAY NEXT, March 22, and following SATURDAY, at 2.30.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

THE DEAD HEART—A Story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at Eight o'clock (18th time). Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Righton; Miss Phillips and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.45. MATINEES of THE DEAD HEART. There will be two morning performances of The Dead Heart on Saturdays 12th and 19th April. On these Saturday nights THE BELLS will be played.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.30, OUR BOYS. (Last three nights.) Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Arthur Elwood, Mr. W. W. Gardiner, Mr. H. Saker; Mesdames Olga Brandon, E. Brunton, F. Frances, E. Vining. Preceded by, at 7.50, SWEETHEART, GOOD-BYE. Messrs. Scott Buist, H. Saker, G. Stanton, L. Chapuy; Mesdames E. Terriss, E. Brunton, E. Vining. Doors open at 7.30.

GAIETY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Mrs. Sylvia Grey, Miss Linda Verner, Miss Connor, Miss Blanche Massey, and Miss Letty Lind; Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. G. I. Minshull, and Mr. Fred. Storey. Doors open at 7.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)
(Manager, Mr. CHARLES CHARLTON.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley, Bernard Gould, W. Lestocq, and F. Kerry. Mesdames Cicy Grahame, Hoston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 9.15 THE PARTING OF THE WAYS. Messrs. A. A. Gifford Helmet Spoon, Rose Dearing, Owen Acker, and J. Nelson. Doors open at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 2. Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BROCKWELL.

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TO-DAY, at 3 and 9, THE BUNCH OF BLOSSOMS, the Matinée Honnée, 182nd and 183rd Performances. The greatest success of modern times. Received with roars of laughter and thunders of applause At 2.30 and 8.15. ISALDA. Doors open 2 and 7.45. Messrs. C. Glenney, Yorke Stephens, Compton Coutts, Bassett Roe, Matthew Brodie, R. Soutar, and Fred Kaye; Misses Sophie Larkin, Helen Forsyth, Vane Featherston, Marie Illington, and Cicely Richards. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.15. Doors open at 2.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LOOKING FOR HIM. Immense success. 151st Time. Mr. Frank Cooper, Messrs. Martin, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Theo. Bolfour, M. Poole, H. Russell, James East, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30 CLARISSA, at 7.45, MEADOW SWEET. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. W. H. Thalberg, Cyril Maude, Benedict Nicholls, J. S. Blythe, Harbury, F. Gross, E. Gillmore, and Fred Thorne; Mrs. Winifred Emery, Mesdames Mary Collette, C. Owen, L. Byron, F. Wayne, Lily Hanbury, and Miss Bandster. MATINEE of CLARISSA SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. R. BENSON.)

EVERY EVENING, at 8 (Thursdays and Fridays excepted), A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, with the Mendelssohn Music. Conductor, Edward Brydon. Messrs. Benson, Ross, Howard, Athol Forde, Black, Weir, Phillips, Tenbitts, Greenville, Stuart; Mesdames Grey, Farrell, Dene, Geraldine, Townsend, Bentley, Bienkell. MATINEES TO-DAY and EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30.
N.B.—HAMLET, NEXT and EVERY THURSDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS at 8.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
MASTER AND MAN.

TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 7.45. HENRY PETTITT and GEORGE R. SIMS' powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which the most popular artists will appear:—Messrs. Herbert Sutcliffe, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Bassett Roe, Fred Shepherd, George Belmore, Arthur Lawson; Miss Edith Bruce, Mrs. Frank Huntley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open 7.15. Commence 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Fryer) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Langtry.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8, AS YOU LIKE IT. Mrs. Langtry; Mesdames M'Neil, Lea, Lindo, Armbruster, &c.; Messrs. Cautley, Bourchier, Sugden, Everill, Fulton, Brodie, Forbes, Gay, Lewis, Cannings, Lawford, Grover, Lingham, Arncliffe, Erlynne, Yorke, &c. Doors open 7.30, carriages at 11.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Amadi and Miss Camille Saville; Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Bernard Gould, Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Albert James, T. A. Shale, A. T. Hendon, and Harry Monkhouse. Preceded at 7.30 by ALL ABROAD. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 3,700.

GARRICK THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN HARE.)

THIS EVENING, at 8, A PAIR OF SPECTACLES. Mr. John Hare, Mr. C. Groves Mr. R. Cathcart, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. C. Dodsworth, Mr. F. H. Knight, Mr. R. Harding, Mr. Byron, Miss Blanche Horlock, Miss F. Hunter, and Miss Kate Rorke. Preceded, at 7, by DREAM FACES. Mr. J. Fisher Robertson, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. S. Pringle; Miss Blanche Horlock and Miss Carlotta Addison (specially engaged) will appear. Doors open 7.40. MATINEE SATURDAY, March 22, at 2 p.m. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Acting Manager, Mr. C. G. COMPTON.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

Messrs. E. S. WILLARD and JOHN LART, Lessees and Managers. Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER. TO-NIGHT, at 8, THE MIDDLEMAN.
LAST TEN NIGHTS.
Mr. Willard, Messrs. Mackintosh, A. W. Pinero, H. Cane, H. V. Esmond, Ivan Watson, Cecil Crofton, Royston Keith; Mesdames Maude Millett, Annie Hughes, E. H. Brooke, Annie Hill, St. Aubyn, Eva Moore, &c. Box-office now open daily, 10 to 5. Doors open 7.40. Carriages 11. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. GRIFFITHS.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

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(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. HENRY J. LESLIE.)

EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Maud Holland, Lewis, Mrs. Sidney, E. Briart, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Ben Davies, Alec Marsh, G. Willoughby, L. Le Hay, Frank H. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30, by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

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TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING, at 8 p.m., the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by JAMES ALBERY, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby A. Brankwell, &c., and C. H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Sidney, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box-office open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Telephone, 3,784.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)

TO-NIGHT at 8, 422nd performance of ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. C. Mervin, Mr. Fred Cape, Mr. A. Bromley Smith, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. F. Farren, Mr. Powell, Mr. W. Quinton; Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Florence Wood, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.15, TO MEET THE MOON. Mr. R. Belgrin, Mr. F. Farren, Miss Laura Graves, Edith Kenward, Lilly Young, and Fanny Brough. Doors open 7.45.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Doors open 2 o'clock. Box-office open daily from 10 till 5.
Business Manager, Mr. R. D ALBERTSON.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.

ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "ALL AT SEA AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signorina Beatrice; Millie, Saracco, Marie, Thorgate, and Vergo, and Signor De Vincenti, Varieties by ERNEST and RIVIERE, the Sisters Eduardo, Miss Annie Alton, Marcelle's Boarhounds and the Dog "Rags," the Albert and Edmonds Troupe, the Avalon Whitridges, Sherman and Morrisey, Mark Lloyd, George English, and JAMES FAWN. Open 7.45 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.

Commence at 7.50. Two Grand Ballets. At 9.0 THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.30, A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. KATTI LANNER. Music by M. LEOPOLD WENZEL. Millie, Paladino and Bettina de Nardi, Signor Cassini, and Signorina Malvani, and Lanner's Grand Variety Entertainment. At 10, Miss Amy Roselle will recite THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW, specially written for her by H. SAVILE CLARKE, Esq. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.

GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—E. H. Macdermott, the popular actor and vocalist; the Mannons, in a novel musical absurdity; Vesmire, the wonderful Jap; the Brantfords, American variety artists; Ottaway and Pepper; Abe Daniels, musical clown; Dora Fielding; Arthur Tinsley; Petrai, the marvellous mimic; Sam Torr; Dogs; Ryan and Richards; Nelly Chapman; Ottaway and Pepper; Albert and Edmund Troupe, the Elopement; James Fawn, comic; the Kellenea Troupe; Paula Dandolfi; first appearance in the variety halls of Miss Kate Chard, the famous opera bouffe prima donna; Marion Graham; George Letham, comedian.
EVENINGS at 7.30; SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30. Prices of admission from 6d. to £2 2s.

THE DEAD SET AT THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

THE principle of Liberalism, said Mr. GLADSTONE, in a famous and felicitous phrase, is Trust in the People tempered by Prudence; the principle of Conservatism is Distrust of the People tempered by Fear. Mr. HENRY FOWLER, in recalling this definition to the Eighty Club the other day, cited in support of it the attitude of the Liberals and the Tories severally to the London County Council. The Liberals, regarding the Council as an honest and able attempt to start a system of municipal government on popular lines, wish more strength to its arm. The Tories, eyeing its representative character with dislike and distrust, lose no opportunity of thwarting and deriding it. Mr. FOWLER had plenty of justification for his contrast when he spoke last week; but he could hardly have foreseen that it would so speedily have been writ up so large as it was in the House of Commons yesterday. The Liberal Unionists are fond of pretending that they have "permeated" the Tories with Liberalism. Old party-landmarks, we are told, have disappeared. We are "all Liberals now," they say, just as we are "all Socialists." There is some truth in such remarks; but not the whole truth. Last night's debates are a useful reminder that good old Toryism still survives, and that you can no more expect to get trust in the people from Tories than to gather figs from thistles.

We are not now concerned to discuss in detail whether the proposals in the two County Council Bills which came before the House of Commons yesterday are good, bad, or indifferent. Many of those in the "omnibus bill" seem to us indifferent: they raise, that is to say, no question of policy, and are important only as matters of administrative convenience. The opposition to them on the part of the Local Government Board certainly seems to be an instance of the "pedantry" of which Lord ROSEBERY spoke. So, with regard to the Strand Improvement Bill, the significance of the Betterment Clause has been greatly exaggerated. The principle was favourably mentioned in the Report of the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes. It was approved by the permanent secretary of the Local Government Board. It works admirably in America. Whether or not it was recognized, as Sir JOHN LUBBOCK yesterday stated, in the time of CHARLES II., it has certainly been recognized in the Artisans' Dwellings Act and the converse of it—the principle of "worsement"—was enforced only the other day by a judgment of the House of Lords. But the fact is that the goodness or badness of the County Council's Bills was not the real question at stake yesterday. They were criticised not on their merits, but on their authorship. The simple truth is that a dead set has been made at the County Council by the Tories, and that anything and everything it proposes to do is certain of their opposition. Every reader of Tory papers must have noticed this fact twenty times over during the last twelvemonth. Indeed, one of the standing instructions of the Tory "leader-writer" seems to have been "when in doubt abuse the County Council." The general line—especially in the *Times*—has, indeed, been ridicule rather than abuse; and where the Tory member yesterday spoke of "disreputable" and "unscrupulous" the Tory papers have generally written "meddling" and "impertinent." But these are only differences of tactics. The *Times* lectures the Councillors as school-boys; Mr. BAUMANN, M.P., abuses them as scamps. But the end in both cases is the same. The County Council is a body founded on popular principles. Therefore on fundamental Tory principles it is to be distrusted. The *Standard* lets the cat out of the bag with refreshing unwariness this morning. "If," it says, "these pretensions are not promptly put down, the Council will work itself into a favourable position for effacing the City Corporation, and usurping even more extensive powers than it now seeks to obtain." The Tories are wise in their generation. When the process of devolution upon a popular and representative body once begins, it inevitably proceeds. The Tories distrust popular government. Therefore they try to thwart and hamper and belittle the County Council while yet there is time. Exactly the same spirit was shown when the House passed on yesterday to debate Mr. BUCHANAN's resolution for entrusting to the Scottish County Councils the protection of rights of way. 'Her Majesty's Government," said the Lord Advocate, "could not agree to matters of this kind being placed in the hands of elective bodies like County Councils." Of course they could not. They may under the influence of fear concede powers to elective bodies, but such concession does not weaken their essential distrust of the thing. As Mr. BUCHANAN's motion was a mere inoperative resolution, enough Liberal Unionists voted with him to leave Ministers in a minority. From a party point of view we are sorry; for nothing would add more to the Liberal majority at the next election than that the Government should go on unchecked in venting its distrust of popular institutions.

THE ROMANCE OF DIAMOND SMUGGLING.—I.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT RECENTLY IN SOUTH AFRICA.)

WHEN you visited the City of Diamonds, personally conducted by your humble servant, and familiarized yourself with the marvels of its unique industry (I am addressing the gentle reader and faithful companion of these travels who did not skip my Kimberley letter), there was one interesting question which (to your ready intelligence) suggested itself at every turn. When you stood by a machine which took in at one end a gulp of rubble washed down with water, and rained out at the other assorted sizes of diamonds from a barley-corn to a walnut, with the profuseness of the princess who dropped pearls whenever she spoke—the question suggested itself then as the sharp-eyed sorter bent over the accumulating hoard. When, in the company's office, you plunged your hands into heaps of these same brilliants on a counter, saw them wrapped up in paper like so many pounds of tea, and felt before such a glittering embodiment of wealth more like some Sinbad or Aladdin moving in the "Arabian Nights" than writer or reader of a nineteenth century newspaper in a sober world of three per cents.—then again that tyrant question rose to your lips, and (but for the employés present) would have been uttered. But when you reviewed the many vicissitudes through which these stones must have passed between the subterranean corridors from which they were dragged and their appearance on the dealer's table—when you considered how much money in each one of them is massed into how tiny a space—then that question simply declined to be stifled, and I am sure you asked, whether lots of them are not stolen on the way. Alas, poor human nature!—which we must now explore upon one of its most melancholy and disquieting sides: the side of crooked ingenuity. A few years ago the answer to your question would have been given in one syllable: Half. I am assured that previous to certain special legislation and to the development of the compound system, it is a fact that of the entire output of the Kimberley mines quite one-half used to find its way into the market through dishonest channels. With "falling reef," flooding water, and a score of difficulties against which they had then to struggle in the mines, Diamond Smuggling was the despair of the companies above ground.

THE INERADICABLE VICE.

Laws have been passed curtailing the liberty of the subject. Penalties have been enforced of the most savage nature. Systems have been adopted which put the strongest strain on the self-respect alike of those who carry them out and of those who have to submit to them. Recourse has been had to methods of inquisition the most repugnant to English notions. Griqualand West has been put under a sort of Coercion Act, involving a special tribunal, a special procedure, and an exceptionally organized department of detectives and police. And the result, after so much endured, and sacrificed, and spent, has only been to reduce the proportion of stolen goods to five per cent., which appears to survive as an irreducible minimum. Instead of one half, one twentieth of the output is now stolen, about £150,000 worth of stones, every year. Indeed, there are some authorities who are inclined to put the loss as high as half a million. So true is it that for a large section of the sons of men honesty means only the absence of temptation. In the days of Martial, if you wanted indelibly to insult a man you called him "a three-letter man"—alluding to the Latin spelling of Thief. Nowadays, in some of the same circumstances, you would simply pronounce the three letters "I.D.B." They are as well known there as any three in the alphabet; for to every man, woman, and child in the country they mean that pest of the country, the Illicit Diamond Buyer. Diamonds and Detectives! It is a fascinating conjunction. The most engrossing novel in the world was built up on the search for a lost moonstone. The subject has a mixed flavour about it of Wilkie Collins, Edgar Poe, and Gaboriau, sufficient in itself to carry me to the offices of the secret police of Kimberley for curious information. But it is also a feature of the gravest importance in the social statics of South Africa, public and private, to say nothing of the constant drain on a most important industry.

THE MYSTIC LETTERS AND THEIR MEANING.

Of the I.D.B., it seems, there are four varieties.

(1.) At the top of the tree there is the rich man, the capitalist, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred a Jew, who organizes, embarks money, and nets most of the profits; but who keeps securely in the background. He may be more than suspected, but he is never caught. He is a most

ART NOTES.

THE TATE COLLECTION AND THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

It is pleasant to be able to announce that in all probability Mr. Tate will yield up his point, and, viewing the matter in a broad light, will allow the Trustees to select what pictures they like from his collection. Mr. Tate is no touchy faddist or notoriety-hunter, but a man of keen artistic taste. To give some idea of the value, present and prospective, of the pictures he offers, one may point out that the three pictures by Millais which are included fetched the following prices on the last occasions on which they were knocked down at Christie's:—1877, "The Knight Errant," 1,500 guineas; 1886, "The Vale of Rest," 3,000 guineas; 1888, "The North-West Passage," £4,000. And to think that when the "Vale of Rest" was painted, thirty-one years ago, Mr. Farrer gave only £600 for it, having then more faith in the artistic merits of the magnificent picture than in its chance of sale. Indeed, he would gladly have parted with it to any purchaser for that sum; but for years none was forthcoming—nor a good word for it in the press, save from Mr. Ruskin. A few of Mr. Tate's pictures will be lent, meanwhile, to the Easter Exhibition at St. Jude's, Whitechapel.

A UNIQUE COPY.

One of the admirers of M. Paul Avril's work has the opportunity of securing a unique copy of his "Miroir du Monde." The popular artist has sold the whole set of his dainty drawings for the work—which is quite equal to "The Fan" and "The Umbrella"—to the bibliophile, M. Brunox, of Paris, adding thereto a specially-executed title-page. These eight-score drawings, miracles of daintiness, have been, together with a copy of the book, bound by Ruban, and the whole, in a gorgeous case, is offered for £400. Considering that M. Avril's drawings for his other works have been dispersed, the sum hardly appears excessive.

A "COLLECTORS' SOCIETY."

A few days ago the foundation of "The Collectors' Society" was announced in Paris, its objects being—(1) to create a permanent fund wherewith to purchase such works of art as it might be desirable to retain for the country; (2) to assist museums in the acquisition of important objects that may be brought to auction; and (3) to succour unfortunate artists. This patriotic society will have a museum of its own, the contents of which, should it at any time cease to exist, will go to the State. The Duc d'Aumale is the nominal, and M. Antonin Proust the actual, president.

THE R. B. A.

IT is whispered that, in consequence of the defection of some members and the withholding of others, the forthcoming exhibition of the Royal Society of British Artists will go far to realize the prophecy of Mr. Whistler.

ARTISTS AND POLITICS

Although the Academic ranks contain a number of stout Conservatives, beginning with the President, among the most enthusiastic of them are several vigilant and hardworking Home Rulers. Yet, as a general rule, artists are a strictly non-political body, lacking the time and the spare energy to devote to such frivolities. Exceptions, of course, exist, Mr. Walter Crane and his friends being well-known examples: but as a whole, the artistic community are non-combatants in the political arena. These words are suggested by the fact that Mr. Colin Hunter, A.R.A., came up for election at the Reform Club on Thursday last.

MR. ALFRED GILBERT AND THE ROYAL INSTITUTE.

One of the pleasantest incidents at the banquet of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours the other night was the reference of the president, Sir James Linton, to the beautiful badge of office which was hung around his neck, and depended from a red silk band. This, it appears, has been presented by Mr. Alfred Gilbert, A.R.A. (one of the guests of the evening) in the true spirit of the brother-artist, esteeming the privilege as an honour. It was unfinished—having been begun only three days previously—but the essential part of the exquisite little work was complete. A female figure of the daintiest grace holds in one uplifted hand "the mirror to nature," while in the other she carries "the pearl of art." Above her head is the jewelled crown of triumphant excellence, and beneath her feet is a mounted shell symbolical of the method of the art. The whole is a most beautiful conception, wrought with the deft fingers and delicate hammer of our modern Cellini.

A VALUABLE GIFT TO THE LOUVRE.

The museum of the Louvre in Paris has just received a valuable testamentary gift from the late M. Fayet of a sketch attributed to Michael Angelo, it being a first study of part of "The Last Judgment." The sketch was purchased by M. Fayet in Florence nearly sixty years ago. The same collector has willed to the Louvre 150 sepia drawings by Domenico Trepolo, which were bought by him in Venice in 1855; and to the Cluny Museum a large plate of Italian faience, bearing a portrait of Raphael, as well as two large round pots decorated with figures of the school of Giovanni Bellini. The latter are considered by connoisseurs to be unique, and of great value.

"respectable" member of society, and possibly a pillar of some local church. Having grown fat on thieving, he may or may not retire from "business" when called to take part in the councils of his country as a member of the Legislature of Cape Colony. This gentleman is perhaps the nearest thing ever known in real life to the gentleman burglars—sleeping partners in a firm of felons—to whom we are accustomed in Adelphi melodrama. It is the great plague-spot of colonial public life that among the richest and most powerful men in South Africa universal rumour casts more than one prominent figure for this odious rôle

(2) Then comes the I.D.B. proper—the retail receiver of stolen goods, who perhaps keeps a store—ostensibly—or "speculates." He plays the middleman to our former friend, and employs in his turn—

(3) The native "runner," who may or may not be employed in a mine, but whose business is to egg on and buy from those who are. Class 4 then is :—

(4) The Kafir who steals. As the underground work is done by Kafirs, 6,000 of them being employed in the mines, it is clear that they have opportunities. Starting as raw savages, innocent of the sense of property in treasure-trove, attracted to Kimberley by the hope of earning the wherewithal to return home, and buy cattle, and with those cattle wives, the poor Kafirs fall easy victims to the blandishments of the tempter. It is they, and the runners, and more rarely the middleman, who pay for the wealth of the arch-principal in terms of penal servitude. While he is called to build up the future of his country under the shadow of Table Mountain, it is their privilege to repair its material defences in Table Bay. It is not such a far cry, after all, from the House of Assembly to the Cape Town breakwater.

SQUALID ROMANCES.

There are, of course, other classes concerned in the infamous trade—women, for instance, both white and black, who are at once the mistresses and the catspaws of some low brute, in whose service they cheerfully "do" their five years, but (as the police assured me) are never known to peach. Poor wretches! There are some touching stories of their misguided loyalty. But it is a squalid romance at best, the romance of diamond smuggling. It is some comfort to the Englishman, at any rate, to know that his countrymen play small part in it. As for Malays, Portuguese, Italians, Austrians, Greeks, and Germans—there are not many of them, it seems, employed about the mines. "But pretty well every one of them that is, is there for I.D.B.," roundly declared the detectives. "But it's the Jews that are at the bottom of it all," they echoed one another in declaring. Europe in the New World is indeed—if I may judge by the Cities of Gold and of Diamonds—paying for her sins of the middle ages in the Old.

THE DANGERS OF DIAMOND STEALING.

The dangers of diamond stealing are very different now from the old days when the "kopje-walloper" from Houndsditch or Petticoat-lane could loaf about the mines with a pocketful of cash and buy hand over hand from half-drunken natives in the Kafir canteen. Under the "compound system" the Kafir contracts for three months to work, board, and lodge with the company. When not at work he spends all his time eating, sleeping, or playing games in a spacious quadrangle built round with iron sheds. For that time he is cut off from the outer world, and from drink stronger than gingerbeer. His few needs in the way of food and clothes he can supply within at cost price. On his way to and from the mine he is strictly watched. So, too, while at work underground, where he gaily sweats away from six to six, on bread and soup and mealies, for one to two pounds a week. Fresh from the mine he has to pass the ordeal of the searching-room, where, naked as he was born, he undergoes a scrutiny of mouth, ears, nose, hair, or rather scrub, armpits—every conceivable or inconceivable lodgment for a diamond—goes through certain gymnastic exercises, and makes way for the next. The whole performance is absolutely the most extraordinary thing I ever saw in my life. Further description would encroach upon *tacenda*. I remember remarking to my *cicerone*, "It's lucky you have black labour handy—no white would stand this sort of thing for any wages under the sun." Indeed, though the white overseers are nominally liable, if suspected, to a similar scrutiny, there was riot and bloodshed once at Kimberley when it was proposed to impose on whites something of the sort as a matter of routine. Modesty, as Darwin proved, is a question of etiquette, and that of the Kafir is not that of Mr. Horsley. Yet he, too, has his pride; and it is hard to believe, little as the "boys" seem to care, that there is not something degrading about such a performance. However, it makes it impossible to have a diamond concealed about the person, otherwise than inside.

A "SAVING CLAUSE."

But the great bugbear of the I.D.B. is the "*onus probandi* clause," under which any one may be called to account for a diamond found in his possession, on pain of conviction for theft. This is worked by an elaborate system of registration at the Detective Office, where every diamond has its pedigree and every dealer's *dossier* is entered up to date. No diamond changes hands honestly without leaving a record at the office. When challenged to say "who sold you this," it is idle for the dealer to plead "I found it," for in that case he ought to have "declared" it, when, if unclaimed, the office sells it, and hands the finder a tithe of the proceeds.

Under this clause, then, it is only necessary for the detective to lay hands on the I.D.B. at some moment when the swag is in his possession. Every diamond in the colony which has not got its pedigree at the detective office, showing at a glance what mine it came from and through whose hands it has passed since the company disposed of it, is a stolen diamond, and woe to him on whom it is found! The career of such a diamond is what we shall next trace, examining the tricks of the trade, and the counter-tricks employed by the Cuffs and Lecocqs of Cape Colony.

(To be continued.)

THE WALTHAMSTOW DIVISION.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I am glad to be able to inform you that there is no foundation for the statements in your issue of this evening, either that I "have for some time past not been enjoying good health," or that I have any intention of applying for the Chiltern Hundreds. It is true that I do not seek re-election in the Walthamstow Division of Essex, and that Mr. Byrne, Q.C., will in all probability contest the seat with the Gladstonian candidate at the next election. Lest my friends should be alarmed at the reference to the state of my health, which is excellent, I will ask you to contradict the rumour.

—Faithfully yours,
March 18th, 1890. WM. THOS. MAKINS.

LADY MEMBERS OF THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I regret that I have again to trouble you in this matter, but my attention has only to-day been directed to your issue of the 15th inst. I much regret being under the necessity to contradict a lady, but the statement contained in Miss Cons's letter to you of the 11th inst. that I informed her that I was "Mr. Beresford-Hope's lawyer" is incorrect. Miss Cons alleged that I was acting at the instigation of Mr. Beresford-Hope, but I contradicted it. There could have been no reason why I should have made such a statement, and, as a fact, I have never seen nor have I been in communication, directly or indirectly, with Mr. Beresford-Hope upon any matter. Neither does my letter bear the construction which Miss Cons endeavours to place upon it. As far back as the 28th of February Miss Cobden informed me that she believed that she had to thank Mr. Beresford-Hope for Sir Walter De Souza's contemplated proceedings, and I then distinctly informed her that Mr. Beresford-Hope had nothing whatever to do with the matter, and that I did not know him; and my correspondence with the ladies already published by them is evidence of the contrary fact, and I am at a loss, therefore, to understand why the allegation is still persisted in, or how Miss Cobden can possibly corroborate Miss Cons in a statement which was never made by me. In giving the most unqualified denial that Mr. Beresford-Hope has anything to do with this matter, or that I ever represented to any one that I was his solicitor, this newspaper correspondence, as far as I am concerned, must cease.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

24, *Lombard-street, London, E.C., March* 18. ARTHUR A. TILLEARD.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The *Standard's* laborious demonstration this morning that the meeting of the Conservative party at the Carlton to-morrow "does not imply any sense of uneasiness, much less of alarm," is one of those excuses which accuse. According to the *Standard*, the meeting will be merely concerned with friendly discussion on the Tithes Bill; but whatever may be on its lips, the following are the things which will be on its mind :—

1. The ill-health of the Prime Minister.
2. The arrears of public business.
3. The revolt of Lord Randolph.
4. The Liberal advance in the by-elections.
5. The succession of minor defeats in the House.

We wish the Conservatives joy of their cogitations on this Budget.

To the above causes of uneasiness for the Tories at home, it may seem far-fetched to add the resignation of Prince Bismarck abroad. Nevertheless, the solidarity of the world is such that no member of the body politic can suffer in one country without the whole body suffering with it. The real issue at stake between the Emperor and Prince Bismarck was, as we said in writing on the Chancellor crisis three weeks ago, the issue of Conciliation *v.* Coercion. All the news that has since come from Berlin bears out this version of the matter. The issue has now been decided by the semi-Socialist Emperor against the anti-Socialist Chancellor. The defeat of Mr. Balfour's coercionist model at Berlin can hardly fail to have some dispiriting influence on the coercionist cause at home.

Under all these circumstances it is not surprising that a shrewd electioneerer like Mr. Caine should be casting about him for some new departure. What he suggests to the Government is that they should dissolve after Easter on the following cries :—

1. Popular Legislation as against Obstruction.
2. A Budget surplus "in relief of popular burdens."
3. "A rattling Liberal measure" of local self-government for Ireland.

No. 2 is not an unlikely move. But where is Mr. Caine going to get his "popular legislation" from? Is it the Tithes Bill? Or the bill to relieve the Irish landlords? And as for the chance of the Tories bringing in a "rattling" local government bill for Ireland, their attitude on the local government of London is sufficient refutation of that.

The last hopes of the men who recently struck against the South Metropolitan Gas Company were turned off at the meter yesterday. It was hoped that the County Council would visit Mr. Livesey with punishment for not supplying the regulation quality of gas. But at yesterday's meeting it was reported that the Council had considered the matter, but found that by law they could take no action without the instruction of the Gas Examiner, and that this official has exculpated Mr. Livesey by describing the strike as "an unavoidable accident"—a cause which, as the law stands, is a bar to proceedings against a defaulting company.

The Government has averted the Swaziland debate, after all, and hung the question up again, a coarse which, as we pointed out yesterday, is not without its merits. In view, meanwhile, of the probability that the Government will throw the burden of Swaziland upon the willing shoulders of the Boer instead of the unwilling shoulders of the British taxpayer, the advocates of Empire in a Bandbox are on the horns of a painful dilemma. Mr. Labouchere finds that he must either abandon his favourite rôle of opposing any addition to British responsibilities, or lose the privilege of attacking her Majesty's Government. Dr. Clark at the same time peppers Baron De Worms with questions about Mr. Rhodes's "filibustering company," the infantile absurdity of which any one but Baron De Worms would treat with less urbanity. From the suggestion, for instance, that the supremely delicate task of carrying the Imperial flag into Mashonaland, and of doing so in friendly co-operation with the Transvaal, should have been put up to public auction for any ring of speculators to buy and sell out as soon as the shares went up, no one would ever guess that Dr. Clark is a sensible adult person with a considerable knowledge of South African affairs.

The one important thing in M. de Freycinet's programme is what he says about Protection :—

The country expects that on the 1st January, 1892, it will be wholly free to readjust its Customs tariffs. After mature inquiry it will expect from those tariffs a more effectual protection for agriculture and for national labour. The Government frankly endorses this view. It will take measures that, at the date specified above there should exist nothing to hamper the free action of Parliament.

The rest of the statement—with its appeal for "Republican concentration," and promises of "amelioration in the condition of the working classes"—is mere padding: it is the same thing, in almost the same words, that has appeared in every Ministerial statement in France for the last ten years. The one positive thing is M. de Freycinet's pledge to the Protectionists; and that, observe, is only negative—a pledge to do nothing which will prevent the Protectionists having a free hand when the Treaties of Commerce expire two years hence.

Last night Mr. Bradlaugh asked the Speaker whether there was any Order of the House against the admission to the gallery of women reporters. No, replied Mr. Peel; but he would not think of making a precedent without the express order of the House in such a novel matter, "which might lead to consequences which it is difficult at this moment to foresee." As ladies—reportresses and others—are wont to sit side by side with men of all sorts and conditions at public meetings, concerts, lectures, and elsewhere, without any sort of difficulty arising, the inference at the expense of the pressmen of the gallery is one which those gentlemen should be the first to resent. By the way, when Sir Robert Peel the other day stood for Brighton, and counted ladies among his most active supporters, both in house-to-house canvass and at public meetings, we do not remember to have heard that the Speaker ever represented to his brother the dangers of those "consequences which it is difficult to foresee."

At its yesterday's sitting the London County Council decided to devote 804 acres of its parks and open spaces to be laid out for purposes of amusement: cricket pitches to be guarded, so that the game may be properly played. To those who know what the poorest side of London life means for the children, this action on the part of the Council is a most important thing. The conditions under which the youth of London is growing up are appalling. They are robbed of the right to play. Herded in narrow streets, where the chivying policeman considers it his mission to suppress any kind of game, the children of the poor are without any knowledge of the invigorating sports that are dear to their better-off brothers. They have no healthy outlet for the natural spirits of boyhood: and the result is such a degree of youthful degradation as might make angels weep. There can be no more deplorable sight on the face of God's earth than that, so frequent in London, of groups of quite young boys loafing about corner public-houses, smoking, and using as common talk language of inexpressible depravity, their almost baby faces already stamped with the marks of vice. The right of the children to play is not the least important matter to which a County Council, or even a more august body, can devote its energy.

*MR. BLACK'S NEW NOVEL.**

THERE is among many novel readers a sort of impression that Mr. Black can only write Scots stories. The impression is very far from being correct. He has certainly won his greatest triumphs on his native heath, but he has more than once shown that he is scarcely less successful when he confines himself almost entirely to characters and scenes in the land of the Southron. Prince Fortunatus is a London story. It seems to have been suggested by the patronage extended of late years to favourite actors and singers by "Society." The hero is a star of the lyric stage, and if we miss the "bits" of sunset and twilight effect on mountain and wave which are a prominent feature in some of Mr. Black's other works, we are shown here something of West-end fashionable life—of which, by the way, the author has not a high opinion—and a good deal of what goes on behind the footlights. The characters are, as a rule, clearly drawn, the incidents are generally natural and fresh, and the story throughout is well told. Of course the hero goes for three months to Scotland, and the picture we get of life at a remote shooting lodge in Ross-shire in the season is not the least interesting part of the book. Mr. Black knows all about gillies and gamekeepers, but if he means us to take the Rev. Mr. MacNachten seriously he must surely know little about Free Kirk ministers. The scene which Mr. Black describes as having taken place at Aivron Lodge on the morning of "The Twelfth" is almost ridiculous in its extravagance. Nor is the Highland parson the only character in the book that will strike the reader as overdrawn. Mr. Black, like a distinguished cleric, has of late shown a marked contempt for newspaper critics, and he has invested one of these unhappy mortals, which he has introduced into his story, with very nearly all the repulsiveness of a Quilp. It seems as if he intended to vent some personal spite upon the poor reviewers, and if this is so the reason is not quite apparent. They have not hitherto, so far as we are aware, treated him unkindly; and if he means the individual he has sketched to be taken as a "type"—and the true novelist, he somewhere tells us, makes all his characters types—one is tempted to ask whether Mr. Black himself was not in his anonymous days a reviewer. But perhaps Mr. Black had better not be taken too seriously in this matter. He certainly can afford to be magnanimous—even to his critics!

* "The New Prince Fortunatus." By William Black. 3 vols. (Sampson Low.)

BRIEF, BUT BITTER.

LAST NIGHT IN THE COMMONS. BY AN OBSERVER.

PRIVATE business last night gave the Tory London members an excellent opportunity for the display of their complete want of sympathy with the popular cause in London, and of the suppressed bitterness with which they regard the work of the County Council. Indeed, the figure they cut will give pleasure to every Liberal manager in London. Their opportunity came on the second reading of the County Council Bill—a sort of "omnibus" measure into which are crowded a large number of proposals for facilitating the progress of business in the Council. Mr. Baumann opposed the bill in a bitterly virulent speech which ought to enlighten the voters of Peckham as to the value and meaning of their member's devotion to the mongrel deity Tory Democracy. He brought down upon his head a dignified rebuke from Sir John Lubbock and Mr. H. Fowler, and a spirited protest from young Mr. Lawson—Mr. Baumann's antiphone—while from his own side of the House he received such meagre support—Mr. Howard Vincent deserting him and Mr. Bartley damning him with faint praise—that he was fain to withdraw his opposition and allow the House to divide on the motion of Mr. Ritchie to refer the bill to a Committee, with the exception of several clauses. Mr. Ritchie waxed very indignant over these clauses, which he asserted to be so many infringements of the sacred Local Government Act, and he would not give any ear to Mr. Courtney, who characteristically took a middle line, and chose another batch of clauses for excision, or to the numerous members who pleaded the special privileges of Glasgow, Manchester, and Birmingham as an *a fortiori* argument for extending the same to London. The clauses in question—which would have enabled the Council to form a "petty cash fund," to be summoned at twenty-four hours' notice, and to have the power of voting urgency in important matters—were defeated by 167 to 137. Mr. Courtney's amendment received 133 votes against 165.

The Strand Improvement Bill was then brought in by Sir John Lubbock, read a second time, and referred to a Committee by Mr. Ritchie, in spite of the protests of Mr. Ambrose, Mr. Darling, and Mr. Webster. On the whole, therefore, the County Council did well last night, and the London Tory members cut a very poor figure. The betterment principle has made some progress when it is to be discussed by a Committee of the House. "Ritchie the Radical" is after all the Council's best friend; his bark is Tory, but his bite is always Radical.

THE LADY AND THE SPEAKER.

Questions contained nothing out of the common. Mr. Samuel Evans—who is the ideal fresh member, energetic but not pushing, and modest but not crushed—pressed the Government to bring forward a bill to compel royalty-owners to share the burden of the distress caused by the great mining accidents; and the Speaker supported the Serjeant-at-Arms in his refusal to allot the vacant seat in the Gallery to a lady-journalist. "It might lead to consequences which it would be difficult to foresee"—and the Press Gallery laughed a laugh which made the attendants look stern. A smile seemed to come from even the grim bars of the Ladies' Gallery.

THE LION IN THE PATH.

On the urgent appeal of Mr. Smith, Mr. W. F. Lawrence loyally withdrew his motion in regard to Swaziland, lest he should embarrass the Government, and the House settled down to a steady debate on the moot question of rights of way in Scotland. Any one who takes his holidays in Scotland will realize the importance of this question, and, whether for the greater unscrupulousness of Scotch landlords or the greater tameness of the Scotch peasantry, its far greater urgency on the north than on the south of the Tweed. At any rate, there can be no question as to the strength of the popular feeling on the matter both in England and Scotland. Under these circumstances the Government might have learned from their collapse in the Volunteer debate the wisdom of giving way. There seemed to be no defence against the accusations of Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Bryce. Both the Lord Advocate and Mr. Mark Stewart admitted their premiss—the increase of the evil—but both denied their conclusion—that something must be done. Mr. Stewart's argument, that because some landlords were good the bad landlords ought to be left alone, was admirably refuted by Mr. Reid; but the real danger-signal for the Government was the speech of Mr. Chamberlain, supported by Mr. Finlay. Both pointed out with great force—Mr. Chamberlain quite in his old democratic style—the powerlessness of the people affected, and their complete inability to fight the question by means of the present law.

THE LION (?) REMOVED.

The Government, however, refused to be warned, and met the positive proposal of Mr. Bryce that the County Council should be empowered to protect the paths with a *non possumus* promise of considering the question "with a view to protecting these rights *if violated*." *O Sancta Simplicitas!* Has no member of the Government ever tried to take a walk in Scotland without the sheltering ægis of some Scotch laird? It was bordering on the dinner-hour when the division was taken, the solid phalanx of the Government had melted away, and the lion was removed from the path by a majority of 110 to 97. But is it a lion? Perhaps, after all, it is only the skin that is genuine.

After running through the remaining orders of the day, and reading Mr. Warmington's Directors' Liability Bill, the House was counted out at 7.48, to the general relief of everybody concerned.

The rabbit has at last made itself so obnoxious in Germany that the game laws no longer give it any protection by way of close time, and, in addition, the German Sports Protection Association is endeavouring to have it made illegal for any one to further propagate the animal.

NOTES FROM THE SALE ROOMS.

PICTURES BY G. F. WATTS.—A LETTER OF PATTI'S.—"HOUSEHOLD GODS."—ODDS AND ENDS.

A CONGREGATION of artists will doubtless be drawn to Christie's rooms to-day to bid for the Oriental arms and costumes, the property of Mr. J. E. Hodgson, R.A. Lot 60, though there are others equally beautiful, is the best piece on the tables. It is an Arab gun. The barrel is of chased steel; the stock is mounted with silver, and set with numerous corals. Some of the Damascus blades are fine specimens of metal inlay. There are odds and ends in the way of costumes that might well stock a fancy dress bazaar. In the same sale are included some Italian and other specimens of needlework. A pair of yellow silk Chinese trousers embroidered with flowers are a triumph in the way of colour. The designer of them must have been a Titian among tailors.

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Among the 3,600 (300 in a lot) portraits of English historical and literary people which come into Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's sale to-morrow, at 47, Leicester-square, there should be some "buried treasure." There are also some of Frye's mezzotints, by which he made a name; for the costumier there is the procession of Queen Elizabeth to Hunsdon House by George Vertue; and her funeral—the latter a roll of pictures twenty-nine feet long; and a portfolio of drawings, a few by great names such as De Wint, Leitch, Havell, Varley, Hollond, and Girtin, that should be looked at with care.

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On the same day Messrs. Robinson and Fisher, 21, Old Bond-street, disperse household items. On the same day, Messrs. Phillips and Son, 73, New Bond-street, offer a somewhat similar *omnium gatherum*, but it includes a full-size billiard table by Wright, an oak bagatelle table, some good bedding and other linen; and Christies will be busy selling the carved oak furniture and other decorative objects of the late Thomas Oldham Barlow, R.A. The collection includes some pieces of Oriental china, bronzes, and metalwork; porcelain and other ware, a sprinkling of arms and armour, and some fabrics. There is also the mahogany engraver's table, with slides and drawers and two circular revolving plates of brass, which was used by Mr. Barlow. Then there is his chair also, and his easels.

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But the sale this week is that of the Hayward letters and manuscripts. It begins in Sotheby's rooms, Wellington-street, on Thursday, and is continued on Friday and Saturday. We describe some of the MSS. below; here, transcribed from the catalogue, is a letter of "the Nightingale's" (Adelina Patti), written from her fairy palace, Craig-y-Nos Castle, and dated May 17, 1883. It is truly British in its sentiments:—

Really I cannot express to you, how *dreadfully* it makes me feel to think that here I am at *home*, after *such hard* work, and fatigue, grasping as tightly as I possibly can, the repose I have in store before me, and instead of that, *all* the HORRID *beggars* come to destroy everything in this world I most wish for, and make me lose *all* hopes and comfort. I assure you an English home is for me (after *all* the homes I have *ever had*) anything but a peaceful one.

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On Friday and Saturday Messrs. Phillips and Sons sell on the premises at 87, Holland-park, W., household gods, all that can make the home beautiful from attic to kitchen, including some beautiful curtains, looking-glasses, and a 7½ octave full grand trichord pianoforte by Steinway and Sons. Christie's are occupied on the same day with Mr. T. O. Barlow's water-colours and engravings. The most interesting items are the Lumdgren drawings—some are original studies, others are transcripts from the great masters Velasquez, Titian, Veronese, Pinturicchio, Rubens, and Watteau—all full of the colour sense. There are also three pen-and-inks by Sir John Millais, done in 1854 for "Framley Parsonage" and other books, and some studies in pencil by Leech, John Phillip, and Landseer, all scraps that artists hunt after, for they value the ten minutes' thought of the master as well as his *chef-d'œuvre*.

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Saturday will be the great day of the week at Christie's. Those who love the work of George Frederick Watts should be present. There is little enough of it likely to find its way into the open market, so that the connoisseur will not have another day such as this day, when thirteen fine examples of his work will be offered for sale. They include "The Red Cross Knight and Una," "Love and Death," "The Rider on the White Horse," "The Rider on the Red Horse," "The Rider on the Black Horse," "Death on the Pale Horse," "Hope," "Cupid," "The Penitent," "The Dove that Returneth No More," "Mount Ararat," "Rain Passing Away," "The Rainbow."

A BATCH OF BROWNING LETTERS.

An important and valuable collection of autographs is being dispersed by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge on the 20th inst. It was the property of the late Mr. Abraham Hayward, Q.C.—the well-known *littérateur* and periodical critic—and consists of upwards of five hundred lots, one of which comprises more than a thousand autograph letters. Seven of the lots are, we venture to think, unique. The late Robert Browning was in the habit of forwarding the revised proof-sheets of his books to a critic, in order that the latter might have more time than is usually allotted to the critic in which to prepare his reviews. With these proofs the poet often sent a letter, explaining where necessary the purport of the poem, and thanking the critic for past favours received. These proof-sheets and letters are now bound up in seven handsome volumes, in which they will come under the auctioneer's hammer next week. That they will excite keen competition can hardly be doubted, as the following extracts from the letters sufficiently show.

"Aristophanes' Apology" appeared late in 1875, and it seems to have been the first book of which Browning sent an early copy or proof-sheets to his reviewer. The poet does not find it necessary to say much about the book itself, and is content with thanking his critic for kindness in the past:—

"I wish" (he says in a letter, bearing date Nov. 27, 1875) "the critics may be half as just to you as you have been generous to me and mine. . . . I am sure if the Poem don't succeed it is no fault of yours. The account of the thing is full and correct. . . . And it is not for me to object to your indulgent generosity."

Possibly this "account of the thing"—as the poet calls it—may have led Browning to the conclusion that the critic was not so sound a Greek scholar as he might have been. The following note concerning the transcript of the "Agamemnon of Æschylus" seems to point this way. The date is May 11, 1877:—

As soon as the whole play is in my hands it shall go to you; I have no notion when the publication will take place—but suppose that will follow immediately. If I might advise you, get a translation and form your ideas about the nature and merits of the Drama itself—and there will only remain to remark on the peculiarities of *my* work, which I hope is closer to the original than any "crib," and wants no praise for anything of my own.

Speaking of "Dramatic Idylls" (Second Series), Mr. Browning says:—

As for the Poem [? "Hervé Riel"] you helped it greatly by your generous criticism and prompt notice, there can be no doubt of that: whether there be appointed "for many years yet" more books of mine to appeal to your good nature; or no more at all, in each case your friendship will be equally valued.

The "prompt notice" was the least that could be expected: for, as we pointed out at the beginning, Browning himself rendered it possible by forwarding the proof sheets. The promise to do justice is contained in the following letter. The poem referred to is "Jocoseria" (1883):—

For the future, if a future there is to be for performances in this nature, I will furnish you with "proofs" as soon as they come to hand. *What you now have is certainly in the possession of* NOBODY ELSE WHATEVER. . . . You made some inquiries which I will answer as well as I can. The title is taken from the work of Melander (*Schwartzmann*) reviewed by a curious coincidence in the "Blackwood" of this month. I referred to it in a note to "Paracelsus." The two Hebrew quotations (put in to give a grave look to what is mere fun and invention) being translated amount to—1st, "A Collection of many lies"; and the 2nd is an old saying: "From Moses to Moses arose none like Moses."

It is a little curious to find a poet helping his critic in this way. Similar help was given in connection with "Fershtah's Fancies," as the following extract from the letter accompanying the proofs, will show:—

I hope and believe that one or two careful readings of the Poem will make its sense clear enough. Above all, pray allow for the Poet's INVENTIVENESS in any case, and do not suppose there is more than a thin disguise of a few Persian names and allusions. There was no such person as Fershtah—the stories are all inventions, and I have put in pencil [on the proofs] the meaning of the two or three Persian words to save trouble. The Hebrew quotations are put in for a purpose, as a direct acknowledgment that certain doctrines may be found in the Old Book, which the Concocters of Novel Schemes of Morality put forth as discoveries of their own. I have put these into English Characters with the proper pronunciation that you may see they go properly into English verse, but that is done only for private information.

There is but one danger in connection with the system adopted by Mr. Browning. The author is bound to rely absolutely upon the honour of the critic to whom he forwards his proof-sheets. A too-early review may be a great deal more damaging than none at all. Mr. Browning had complete faith in his man:—

I put absolute trust in you (he says, in forwarding the proofs of "Parleyings with Certain People") not to anticipate the publications as to embroil me with the other periodicals, not one of which as yet is in possession of even the subject of any single poem in the collection. I have put to you exactly what I should do so were I not aware of your good faith, and also because the book will require more attention than usual; besides that the persons addressed are but little known.

WHERE BRITISH EMIGRANTS SHOULD NOT GO.

BRITISH emigrants should avoid Chili. Those who have gone there have bought their experience dearly, and wish themselves well out of the country. The Chilian Government are very anxious to introduce European labour, and made a contract in April last with the firm of L. de Llanos, Keats, and Company, of Brussels, by which the latter undertook to recruit and forward to Chili 25,000 emigrants before the close of the year. Those sent out were largely from Spain, but England was also made a recruiting ground, and the first batch of British emigrants, who arrived at Santiago in November, were not long in discovering their mistake. They complained to Consul Kennedy of the incorrect representations made to them by certain sub-agents in England, and the misleading information contained in a pamphlet supplied to intending emigrants by the firm of Llanos and Keats. This is specially noticeable in the tables of Chilian money and salaries and wages set out in the pamphlet. There are dollars and dollars, and, as it happens, the Chilian paper dollar—gold and silver coins being practically unknown—is worth not four shillings, but about two. It has never been higher than 20*d.*, and has been as low as 21*d.* Owing to the depreciation and fluctuation in the value of the paper dollar, and to the high rate of import duties, more articles of ordinary use, such as clothing and furniture, can be bought for a shilling in England than for a dollar in Chili. The wages appear large, calculated on the basis of 4*s.* to the dollar, but that requires to be halved in order to get at the real value, and even then the figures are too high. Farm labourers, instead of earning £7 to £10 per month, are paid about 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day, and are lodged in mud cabins thatched with bulrushes, and receive beans, bread, and water for daily food.

"Good agricultural labourers," Mr. Kennedy says, "from England or Scotland, are men acquainted with dairy work and cattle-farming, who are willing on first arrival to submit to the discomforts of bad food and lodging and small wages, may hope, within two years, or even sooner, to rise to a position of comparative ease; but, as a general rule, I would not encourage British subjects to try emigration to Chili; they are at a great disadvantage at first, as compared with Italians or Spaniards, or even Frenchmen, who pick up the language quickly, and accommodate themselves more easily to the customs and system of life of the natives."

Mr. Thomas, the Vice-Consul, takes the same view. "The English emigrant," he says, "is at the same time the best and worst of any which could be imported to this country. He is the most civilized of them, and consequently he brings with him a fund of physical and moral strength which would do immense good to the country in the long run if they could find room for him, and treat him as he deserves and is accustomed to be treated. But for those same reasons he is the most expensive, the most difficult to provide for during the first period of his life here, and because he is a good workman, who occupies all his time in gaining a livelihood for himself and family, if he has one, which is generally the case, he has neither time nor disposition for learning the language, which is of all his greatest difficulty."

The Ladies' Corner.

"LITTLE DEEDS OF KINDNESS."

Miss F. F. Young writes to us from 32, Westbourne-park:—"May I venture to call the attention of your readers to the children's 'League of Kindness,' which was started in April, 1889, and now numbers almost 400 members and associates? The object of this League is to help the poor to obtain suitable clothing at a nominal price, and also to bring a little sunshine into the children's lives in some of the poorest parishes of South London.

"Much in this way is being done for East London, while South London, although equally poor, is very often neglected, so I would plead very earnestly for these neglected little ones, and ask all who sympathize with our city waifs to do their best to relieve sickness, clothe the naked, and feed the hungry, by becoming members or associates of this League, and in the name of the bairns I would thank them. The League was started especially for children of the upper and middle classes, that they might be taught early in life to care for the wants of others poorer than themselves. We ask boys each to make one toy, scrap-book, or knitted article, and girls to make two garments annually. We are very glad to welcome ladies as associates, and we ask each associate to subscribe 1*s.* annually in addition to her two garments, or 2*s.* 6*d.* and no garments. It is as associates, too, that we especially ask gentlemen to help us. If any lady will start a branch of our League for us, either in London or in the provinces, we shall be extremely grateful; at present the League is at work in three very poor parishes. I shall be pleased to give further particulars to any one who may be interested in our work. Kindly enclose stamped addressed envelope.

"Another way in which mothers and others engaged in the bringing up of children can keep up the interest of the little ones in charitable objects, is by subscribing to the small quarterly periodical issued by the Church of England Central Society for Providing Homes for Waifs and Strays, the first number of which has just been published. Sixpence is the subscription, for which *Brothers and Sisters* is sent out four times a year, and as the little magazine is full of bright stories and pictures, children will naturally take an interest in it, and subscribers, while aiding the society in its excellent work among the poorest of poor city children, will teach their own boys and girls lessons in charity by bringing before them the lives of those who are indeed 'the least of these.'"

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

DE FINOD, J. "A Thousand Flashes of French Wit, Wisdom, and Wickedness." (Paterson and Co.)
[Brief extracts, with an index of authors. Cloth. Pp. 252.]

FULLER, The Rev. MORRIS, M.A. "Our Title Deeds: A Defence of the Church against Disendowment." (Griffith, Farran, and Co.)
[Cloth. Pp. xx., 380.]

LAYARD, FLORENCE L. "The Correspondence of Madame du Noyer." (Bentley and Son.)
[Letters of the reign of Louis XIV.—translated and edited. Two vols.]

PERROT, GEORGES, and CHARLES CHIPIEZ. "History of Art in Sardinia, Judæa, Syria, and Asia Minor." (Chapman and Hall.)
[Translated from the French and edited by J. Govino. Two vols.]

SINCLAIR, FRANCIS. "Ballads and Poems from the Pacific." (Sampson Low.)
Second edition. Cloth. Pp. x., 302.]

WILLIAMS, JOSEPH W. "British Fossils." (Swan Sonnenschein and Co.)
[An introduction to the study of past life; forming a volume of "The Young Collector" series. Cloth. Pp. 96. Price 1*s.*]

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Publishers' Announcements.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND CO.'S LIST.

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The *Graphic* says:—"It is difficult to over-estimate the importance of Sir Charles Dilke's 'Problems of Greater Britain.' It is one of the most important books published for many years, and is worthy to rank besides such a monumental work as that of Professor Bryce on the United States. In these two elaborate volumes we have the latest views of one of the foremost statesmen of this generation: a man who almost from boyhood has diligently trained himself for high office in the State, and who has studied with more assiduity and enthusiasm than probably any other living man the vast and complicated problems connected with the immense organization known as the British Empire. . . . Knowledge, candour, and statesmanship are the conspicuous qualities of the book, and its value is clear and sustained. . . . A noteworthy book, which will have a wide and permanent influence."

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LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

Lord Randolph Churchill has addressed a letter to Mr. James Edmeston, chairman of the Paddington Conservative Association. Acknowledging the resolution passed by the members of the Council of the South Paddington Conservative Association at their recent meeting. In his letter Lord Randolph says:—

The resolution which you send me represents merely the opinion of the Council, which, of course, however, is entitled to great respect from me. It states that my action in connection with the debate of the Parnell Commission is entirely out of harmony with the views of the Conservative electors of the division. I have no reason to suppose that the Council are in error in committing themselves to this view, but I remark with satisfaction that the Council, with a prudence which I cannot too highly or respectfully commend, have abstained from expressing any opinion as to whether my action was right or wrong. Further, I am bold enough to indulge in the prophecy that as time goes on, and as political events develop themselves, the Special Commission will be generally designated in Tory circles by an adjective more common in popular use than is altogether agreeable to the polite ears of moralists and divines. Had the Council deemed it to be their duty to pronounce that the opinions which I expressed on Tuesday last were distinctly wrong opinions, and that the judgment of the Council on such a matter been confirmed by a general meeting of the Paddington Conservative Association, I should, of course, have thought it my duty to take the opinion of the constituency as a whole by resigning my seat and by offering myself again as a candidate. In view, however, of the limited and qualified opinion which the Council has recorded and conveyed to me through you, it does not appear to me to be necessary to inflict upon the borough the trouble and the anxiety of a parliamentary election. Should, however, the Council do me the honour of disagreeing with me in this respect, the members of the Council will know what steps it will be necessary for them to take to settle the difference of opinion on a particular subject which, to my great regret, exists between them and me.

LORD HARTINGTON.

Lord Hartington's return to London is, the London correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post* says, accelerated at the earnest request of Lord Salisbury.

EPPING FOREST IMPROVEMENTS.

In an address delivered by Mr. Percy Lindley last night at the Public Hall, Loughton, on "Epping Forest and its management," reference was made "to the drastic clearings taking place," especially to the clearings made on and around Ambresbury Banks. These ancient British earthworks were thought to mark the fight and flight of Queen Boadicea, and were among the most interesting remains of antiquity in Essex. But the improvements had been carried right over these earthworks. The fine preservation of the earth ramparts was doubtless largely due to the protection largely afforded by the natural growth which stood upon them. Not only did the roots bind the banks together, but the top growth sheltered them from the destructive influence of the weather—and the gradual denudation of all exposed raised earths. For several reasons, then, apart altogether from the sentimental objection to these remnants of remote antiquity being meddled with at all by "improvers," the considerable clearing which had gone on was injudicious, altogether unnecessary, and called for emphatic censure. The Act of Parliament which placed the control of Epping Forest in the hands of the Corporation expressly ordered that the ancient earthworks, together with the natural aspect of the forest, were to be preserved. In consequence of complaints made last year in the public press new rules had been made by the Epping Forest Committee for the instruction of the local management; but these rules, if in force, did not appear to have been observed at Ambresbury Banks or at the Fairmead Woods.

FALLING OFF IN AMERICAN IMMIGRATION.

The annual Report of the Emigration Commissioners for 1889 shows that 349,235 immigrants arrived in New York in the course of the year. Of this number 156,633 were adult males. The above figures show a decrease of 70,485 immigrants as compared with the year 1888. The largest number ever landed was in 1882, when it reached 476,086.—*Daltiel.*

WELSH TITHE COMMITTEE.

The Welsh Tithe Committee met last night at the offices of the Cymru Fydd Society, Chancery-lane, W.C. The chair was taken by Mr. T. H. Bolton, M.P. Among others present were Captain Verney, M.P., Messrs. T. Howell Williams, L.C.C., and Thomas Lough (Liberal candidate for West Islington). After considerable discussion of the Government's Tithe Bill it was resolved, "That no settlement of the tithe question will be satisfactory that does not provide for an equitable application of tithe to public purposes." It was further resolved, "That steps be taken immediately to organize public meetings in London to bring the subject before the public."

The grand jury has indicted Mr. Kincard for the murder of Mr. Taulbee.—*Reuter.*

Mr. Johnston, the British Consul, left Mozambique to-day on board her Majesty's sloop *Reindeer* for Zanzibar.—*Reuter.*

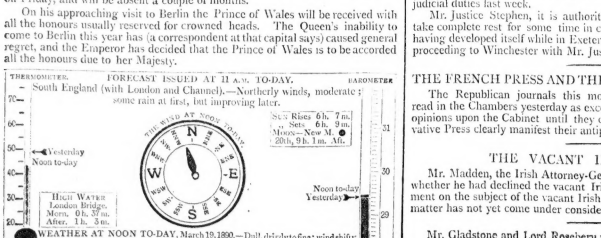
Two or three precedents have been found bearing out Mr. Courtney's ruling on Mr. Labouchere's case.

It is stated to-day that Mr. James Joicey, M.P., has been ordered by his doctor to take a short holiday abroad. He will probably leave for the Continent on Friday, and will be absent a couple of months.

On his approaching visit to Berlin the Prince of Wales will be received with all the honours usually reserved for crowned heads. The Queen's inability to come to Berlin this year has (a correspondent at that capital says) caused general regret, and the Emperor has decided that the Prince of Wales is to be accorded all the honours due to her Majesty.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY. BAROMETER.

South England (with London and Channel).—Northerly winds, moderate; some rain at first, but improving later.



WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, March 19, 1890.—Dull, drizzly to fine; windshifty.

Readings by NEGRETTI *and* ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

FOURTH EDITION.

THE RESIGNATION OF PRINCE BISMARCK.

AN AUTHORITATIVE ACCOUNT OF THE CRISIS.

Further light is now thrown upon the resignation of Prince Bismarck. The *Standard* correspondent sends from an authoritative quarter the following account of the crisis:—

HOW AND WHEN THE DIFFERENCES BEGAN.

"Ever since the Chancellor's return to Berlin and the dissolution of the late Reichstag differences of opinion between Prince Bismarck and the Emperor have arisen, so comprehensive and defined that the question of resignation soon came irresistibly to the front. Long interviews took place between them, and the Chancellor at first bowed before the initiative of the Emperor, who insisted on an energetic and uncompromising policy for the protection of labour, declaring it to be the duty of a Monarch to watch over, not the capitalist and the rich man, but the downtrodden and impoverished worker. His Majesty would not have concessions wrung from him one by one by the Social Democrats, but was prepared to concede frankly and without reserve those of their demands which seemed to him just. He also censured the Federal Council for not taking into consideration the resolutions of the Reichstag in that direction. The Chancellor subordinated his own views to those of the Emperor, and the issue of the two decrees and the invitations to the Labour Conference followed in due course."

THE NEW GENERATION AND THE OLD.

"But the incident increased rather than diminished the Chancellor's desire to resign. He regarded the action of the Emperor with frigid reserve, and, as he did not attempt to hinder it, the crisis was thought to be at an end. But the former relations between the two could not be resumed, and, as was actually the case at the end of last week, the most trifling question was enough to bring matters to a head. The deeply-rooted divergence between the views of the two men is only too evident. The Emperor is of the new generation, a product of the culture of to-day. The Chancellor, who belongs to a very different school, starts from directly opposite views of life, and observes a negative if not a hostile attitude towards the modern Social movement. He has expressed the opinion that to grant further concessions would be to pour oil on the flame, and to increase the volume of the flood of Social Democracy, which has already swollen in such portentous degree. He cites the dictum that 'l'appétit vient en mangeant.'"

THE EMPEROR DECLINES TO FOLLOW THE CHANCELLOR.

"The Emperor, on the other hand, hopes to conquer Social Democracy after satisfying the just aspirations of the working classes. He seeks also for closer contact with the people, and a personal share in legislation. He declines to follow blindly the Chancellor's advice, and is resolved to investigate, to think, and to decide for himself. Two such diametrically opposite natures cannot work permanently together. Prince Bismarck has rendered the greatest services, has shaped and decided, practically alone, the destinies of Prussia, Germany, and even of Europe during almost a generation, and has founded and consolidated the German Empire, and its power at home and abroad. But it is neither his wish nor, in his opinion, his duty to aid in the solution of the new problems which the Emperor feels it his task to solve. Prince Bismarck's resignation is, therefore, practically an accomplished fact."

A SWEEPING CHANGE.

"Under these circumstances, it is evidently the Emperor's intention to effect a sweeping change in the highest offices of the Civil Service, and he has for some time past been seeking the best way to carry out his resolve. Absolute secrecy on the matter is, of course, observed everywhere, but it is regarded as assured that Herr von Bötticher will not be Chancellor. The Emperor will appoint to office only such persons as will support and execute his plans under all circumstances and in every particular. It is absurd to suppose that Prince Bismarck has been the only recalcitrant Minister, and equally so to imagine that the substitution of Imperial Ministries for the office of Chancellor has been under consideration. The Emperor is the sole judge in such matters. The present situation has not been influenced in the smallest degree by the elections, since by the result is not considered by the men now in power to be as disastrous as certain newspapers make out. On the contrary, the attempt will be made to govern with the present Reichstag as long as possible—it is hoped, with success."

A Central News telegram from New York says:—The large German population in this city are greatly excited about the resignation of Prince Bismarck. The majority appear to believe that the Chancellor's retirement will have a seriously adverse effect upon the welfare of the Fatherland.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS FROM BERLIN.

A Reuter's telegram from Berlin this morning says:—Prince Bismarck's resignation had not been accepted up to yesterday afternoon. It is, however, considered beyond all doubt that the Prince will accept the Chancellor's request to be relieved of his offices, and it is reported that the official acceptance of the resignation will be announced in the *Reichsanzeiger* this evening. The Prince's formal application is stated to be very brief and to refer to his old age and consequent failing strength as the motive for his retirement. No change is contemplated in the existing Constitution of the Imperial Government, and a new Chancellor will therefore have to be appointed. The personage on whom the Emperor's first choice fell for the succession to the Chancellorship has, it is stated, not yet declared whether he will accept the post.

LIVERPOOL STRIKE.—ARRIVAL OF 500 TROOPS.

On Sir James Mathew and Sir Arthur Charles arriving in Liverpool yesterday to open the spring assizes, the mayor of the city consulted their lordships as to the decision of the magistrates to bring in the military in view of a possible disturbance. The learned judges considered the decision a wise one, and his worship then telegraphed to Preston for 500 troops, who arrived last night. There was a great meeting yesterday of dock labourers on strike, and they were addressed by Mr. Cunninghame Graham, M.P., and Mr. M'Hugh. A large number of new hands arrived in the city yesterday to replace men on strike. The docks are still full of vessels with undischarged cargoes.

A Central News telegram from New York says:—The shipment of goods from east coast ports to England is seriously impeded by the strike of dockers in Liverpool, and it appears likely that the sailings of some passenger vessels may be delayed.

THE SICK JUDGES.

Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams has only just recovered from the illness with which he was attacked three weeks since, and his lordship yesterday proceeded to Birmingham to preside in one of the assize courts there. Owing to his inability to work, Mr. Justice Williams could not hold the Stafford assizes as arranged, and that duty fell on Mr. Justice Hawkins. That learned judge will be back in town in a day or two, but the plan under which he was to resume sittings in banco with Baron Pollock has fallen through owing to the indisposition of that member of the bench. The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Fry, however, will be available to assist in disposing of Queen's Bench work until the end of the present term, as Lord Justice Bowen is still on the sick-list, and the regular business of the Court of Appeal can, according to Act of Parliament, only be discharged by three judges sitting together. On the Chancery side anything but encouraging reports are received as to the health of Mr. Justice Kay, who has been ailing since the death of his wife, and who had to entirely give up his judicial duties last week.

Mr. Justice Stephen, it is authoritatively announced, has been ordered to take complete rest for some time in consequence of illness of a serious nature having developed itself while in Exeter. He has returned to London instead of proceeding to Winchester with Mr. Justice Cave.

THE FRENCH PRESS AND THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION.

The Republican journals this morning regard the Ministerial declaration read in the Chambers yesterday as excellent. The Radical papers reserve their opinions upon the Cabinet until they can judge it by its acts, while the Conservative Press clearly manifest their antipathy.—*Reuter.*

THE VACANT IRISH JUDGESHIP.

Mr. Madden, the Irish Attorney-General, replying to an inquirer, who asked whether he had declined the vacant Irish judgeship, writes that any announcement on the subject of the vacant Irish judgeship is premature, inasmuch as the matter has not yet come under consideration.

Mr. Gladstone and Lord Rosebery were at the Garrick Theatre last night seeing "A Pair of Spectacles."

THE DISPUTE IN THE COAL TRADE.

The stagnation caused by the great coal strike in the northern and midland counties continues, and threatens to become more accentuated as the stocks of fuel in the hands of the manufacturers are exhausted. This is the general tone of the reports from such industrial centres as Lancashire and Yorkshire, but in London the situation hardly seems to have been realized. At a meeting of the Lancashire Miners Federation at Manchester yesterday it was resolved to recommend that representatives be sent to confer with the employers, as suggested by the latter, in the metropolis to-morrow (Thursday), and the latest future action of many pit owners will be guided by the result of this gathering.

PRICES IN LONDON.

The Press Association asserts that in the north of London coal was yesterday being retailed at 2*s.* per hundredweight.

HOW THE COTTON TRADE IS AFFECTED.

Unless the colliers' strike is speedily settled, it is feared that the cotton trade of East Lancashire will receive a severe check, as manufacturers find that they cannot afford to pay the prices demanded for coal for steam purposes. There has been an increased demand at the gas works in the district for coke, but the price of this fuel has also been advanced in some cases by 1*s.* per ton. The middlemen deny that there is and great scarcity, and say that they can supply any quantity of coal if customers will pay the prices, which are of an exorbitant character. House coal ranges from 30*s.* to 35*s.* per ton, burgy from 20*s.* to 21*s.*, and black from 19*s.* to 20*s.* 6*d.*

STOPPED FOR WANT OF FUEL.

One half of the mills at Accrington are at a standstill for want of fuel. Haslingden factories are little better, but at Oswaldtwistle it will be possible to tide over two or three days. In this district there are several thousand hands thrown out of work, and to-night the number will be greatly increased.

THE STRIKE IN NOTTINGHAM.

Mr. Bailey, the Notts miners' agent, declares that the strike is practically ended at Nottingham, and is now confined to the Bestwood, Hucknall, Linby, and Annesley pits only. A settlement is soon expected.

LATEST NEWS FROM NORTH WALES.

It was expected that most of the miners on strike at the North Wales collieries would return to work this morning, but the men still hold firm. The coal owners have convened a further meeting, by which it is anticipated a compromise will be effected. If the strike continues to the end of the week, eight thousand brick and terra-cotta workers and other hands will be thrown out of employment, as the coal stocks are very low.

The manager of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company (Limited) writes correcting a statement relating to the strike:—"The paragraph I refer to," he says, "reads: 'The colliery owners are certain to begin to sell one another, and that very nearly in next week. We understand that in Derbyshire the chairman of the Coalowners' Federation, Mr. Barnes, M.P., and the Staveley Company, &c., will give the advance.' So far as this company is concerned, I shall feel obliged if you will give authoritative denial on our behalf to this statement in your next issue, as up to the present moment we have not promised to concede any advance whatever, and shall abide by the decision of the Federation of Coalowners at their meeting on Thursday next."

We stated yesterday that Charles Seely and Co., of Nottingham, were ready to concede the demands of the men, but we should have said that they did so at once, so that their men never struck.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL AT WORK.

The business transacted at yesterday's meeting appeared somewhat tame and trivial after the Titanic warfare over the Blackwall scheme.

THE QUESTION OF "MAIN ROADS."

Under the Local Government Act, 1888, the Council possesses power to promote important thoroughfares to the dignity of "main roads," and to pay for their maintenance and repair. All the local authorities of the metropolis, with two exceptions, have applied to the Highways Committee, inviting the Council to declare certain thoroughfares under their jurisdiction "main roads," and, as such, chargeable upon the county rates. That committee, however, declined the proffered boon, which would add over £400,000 per year to the expenditure of the Council, and probably give rise to much friction and dissatisfaction. The committee recommended that steps should be taken to secure the exemption of the metropolis from the operation of the section. Mr. Leon opposed this, contending that a common fund for the maintenance of "main roads" would tend to promote the equalization of taxation. But Mr. Westacott (chairman of the committee) pointed out that the plan, if adopted, would work to the advantage only of the richer parishes, and reminded the Council that the "common poor fund" had been conducive to extravagance. After a long debate the recommendation was adopted, and parishes will continue to be responsible for the maintenance of their own thoroughfares, "main" and other.

THE PECCANT PARK-KEEPER AND THE PAUL PRYS.

The Parks and Open Spaces Committee proposed to reduce by £25 per year the salary of Mr. Gibson, superintendent of Victoria Park, and to reprimand the foreman, inasmuch as they had "been in the habit of utilizing the services of a park labourer each for their private domestic work." To this Mr. Corbett moved an amendment disapproving of the reduction as disproportionate to the offence, which it was stated arose out of what was understood to be an ancient and prescriptive "right." In the course of discussion it appeared that Mr. Holmes and Mr. Austin, acting upon an anonymous letter, paid a "surprise visit" to the lodge at Victoria Park, and found two labourers acting as "maid-servants" to the officers named. Mr. Austin's naive account of the expedition caused much amusement, not unmixed with indignation at the invasion of domestic life. Two divisions took place upon the matter, and it was at length referred back to the committee for further report.

HILLY FIELDS, BROCKLEY.

The Parks and Open Spaces Committee reported that they had had under consideration applications from various public bodies praying that the Hilly Fields, Brockley, comprising 57½ acres, might be purchased and secured as an open space. The committee fully recognized the desirability of acquiring the property, but, in view of the financial position of the Council, they were not prepared to recommend the expenditure of over £45,000 for that purpose. Mr. Collard moved that the recommendation should be referred back, and Mr. Lemon stated that the land could probably be purchased at a much lower price than that mentioned. The amendment was adopted.

DISTRICT COUNCILS.

Mr. A. Hoare moved: "That in the opinion of the Council it is a matter of great urgency in the public interest that District Councils should be established in London, and that it be referred to the Parliamentary Committee to communicate this expression of opinion to the President of the Local Government Board, and to request him to receive a deputation from the Committee on the subject." In seconding the motion Mr. Bassett Hopkins reminded the Council that the Government had for two years shelved the subject of District Councils in spite of their solemn promises to deal with it. Mr. Arthur Arnold moved the omission of all words after the word "London," and Lord Rosebery supported this on the ground that the Council would be ill-advised in sending deputations to, but in the antechambers of Ministers, whose action would be determined by considerations of convenience and expediency with which the Council would have nothing to do. "I have been in office myself," added his lordship, "and perhaps that fact makes me somewhat sceptical as to the efficacy of deputations." The truncated resolution was adopted.

IS A STRIKE AN "UNAVOIDABLE ACCIDENT"?

This question was raised by Mr. Dickinson on the report of the Sanitary Committee, which contained a statement to the effect that the chief gas examiner had absolved the South Metropolitan Gas Company from the statutory penalties consequent upon a deficient supply, on the ground that the failure had been due to unavoidable cause or accident. Mr. Dickinson doubted whether a strike could be justifiably included in that category, and was supported by Mr. Burns, who briefly reviewed the circumstances that led to the recent contest between Mr. Livesey and the gas stokers. The discussion was somewhat exciting for a few minutes, but its interest flickered out when Lord Rosebery pointed out that the decision of the chief gas examiner was final, and that the Council was consequently powerless in the matter.

Mr. Gladstone will spend the Easter recess at Hawarden Castle.

On Saturday evening a choral festival will be given in the Albert Hall by the Sunday School Union. The choir will number 1,400 voices.

Her Majesty is to hold two Drawing-rooms early in May, and the Prince of Wales will hold two more Levées between Easter and Whitsuntide.

Truth hears that the health of Princess Christian is entirely restored by her treatment at Wiesbaden. She returns to England in April.

The Bishop of St. Albans' resignation is said to be practically completed, and the name of his successor will shortly be announced. Rumour is busy with the name of Canon Scott-Holland.

THE CANADIAN MURDER.

BURCHALL PROTESTS HIS INNOCENCE.

According to a Dalziel despatch the better class of people at Woodstock (Ontario) deny emphatically that Burchall ever had the entrée to good society here owing to his reckless habits. He spent money lavishly, and was what is known in that part of the country as a "high liver." He talked frequently of his "governor" sending remittances, but nobody ever knew exactly who his "governor" was. It is said that he has visited Canada twice before the present trip. His coolness under the terrible accusation against him is exciting wonder. He seems thoroughly confident of his position, and most positively asserts his innocence. He was seen yesterday, and said, with some emotion, "I have some friends at home who will be glad to know that I am innocent. Say from me that I will clear myself of this charge. I cannot say more just now—but I have no fear of the result." It is said that Mrs. Burchall has left for home—her determination if she is released to remain in Canada at Burchall's side.

It is stated that the Crown authorities will allow Mrs. Birchall to return to England with her father, Mr. David Stevenson.—*Dalziel.*

A CANADIAN DICTUM WITH AN IRISH MORAL.

The libel suit brought by the Toronto *Mail* against the *Empire* for an article in which the *Mail* was spoken of as a treasonable sheet, is set down for trial at the present assizes. Mr. Justice MacMahon, in charging the grand jury, made a reference to the case, which is attracting considerable attention. The learned judge told the jury a Canadian paper had a perfect right to advocate annexation without incurring the charge of treason or traitorous conduct.—*Dalziel.*

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught, after visiting the different objects of interest in Kandy, received a number of chiefs of the district, who expressed their loyalty to the Queen. Their Royal Highnesses returned to Colombo in the afternoon and held a reception at Queen's House. At midnight the Royal party re-embarked on their voyage to China, the breakwater being brilliantly illuminated in honour of the Duke and Duchess. Their Royal Highnesses have been the object of loyal demonstrations everywhere during their visit to the island.—*Reuter.*

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES.—COLONISTS INDIGNANT.

Advices received at Halifax, N.S., from Newfoundland, state that the inhabitants are greatly agitated on account of the *modus vivendi* recently concluded between France and Great Britain with regard to the lobster fishery. The Legislature strongly protests against what it regards as an invasion of the colony's territorial rights, and will probably refuse to recognize the arrangement.—*Reuter.*

DISTRESS AMONG THE KENTISH BRICKMAKERS.

The distress among the locked-out Kentish brickmakers is already very keen, and the Relief Committee which has been formed is now busily at work in the soup kitchen opened to-day for the first time.

THE EAST DOWN ELECTION.

Mr. J. A. Rentoul's address to the electors of East Down has been issued. He is opposed to Home Rule, is a Presbyterian, and will support the present Government. The earliest day for the nomination is the 25th inst., and for the polling the 28th inst.

THE QUARANTINE DELAY AT NEW YORK.

The report that Dr. Smith, the health officer of the port of New York, had given orders to his assistants to inspect and pass Atlantic steamers entering New York harbour after sundown has been denied. It is certain, however (says a Dalziel despatch), that he will be compelled to do so at once. Up to the present time vessels entering the port of New York after sundown have been forced to lie off quarantine until after sunrise the next morning. Frequently the large Atlantic liners, with a couple of thousand people on board, miss the sunset gun by a few minutes only, and the agitation in favour of a compulsory order from the State Government to the Health Department of the port has been going on for some time. There is no law prohibiting the health officers from passing vessels after sundown, but it is compulsory only that they shall do so between sunrise and sundown.

A "RUN OF LUCK AT MONTE CARLO."

The excitement of the week at Monte Carlo was an extraordinary run of luck which attended the play of Mr. E. J. Pape, who will have good reason to remember the number 32, which, coming up twice three times in succession on Wednesday, brought him nearly 100,000 francs!

SAD DEATH OF A DOCTOR.

Last week at Navan, county Meath, a young physician, Dr. Nicholls, aged thirty-five, was directed to hold a post-mortem examination on a woman who met a violent death. During the operation the doctor gave himself a slight cut on the hand, to which he attached no particular importance. Blood-poisoning afterwards set in, however, and his death is now reported.

THE DETAILS OF LAST NIGHT'S DIVISION.

The motion of Mr. Buchanan, which was carried against the Government in the House of Commons last evening, in favour of entrusting the maintenance of rights of way in Scotland to the County Councils, was supported, including tellers, by 65 Gladstonian Liberals, including the following Scottish members:—Sir George Trevelyan, Mr. Duff, Mr. R. T. Reid, Mr. Marjoribanks, Mr. Barbour, Mr. Birrell, Mr. Macdonald Cameron, Sir George Campbell, Mr. Donald Crawford, Mr. Esslemont, Dr. Farquharson, Mr. Munro Ferguson, Mr. Haldane, Professor Hunter, Mr. Keay, Sir John Kinloch, Mr. John Ling, Mr. C. S. Parker, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Wallace, and Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Hoyce, tellers; twenty Irish Nationalists; twenty Liberal Unionists, including Mr. Chamberlain and the following Scottish members: Professor Caldwell, Mr. Anstruther, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Archibald Corbett, the Hon. Arthur Elliot, Mr. Finlay, Sir Robert Jardine, Mr. Fraser Mackintosh, Mr. W. P. Sinclair, and Mr. Thorburn; and seven Conservatives: Mr. Cornwallis, Sir Charles Dalrymple, Baron Dimsdale, Mr. Donkin, Mr. C. Gray, Mr. Joseph Howard, and Captain Pelly. The majority against the motion consisted of ninety-seven Conservatives, including the following Scottish members:—Mr. J. P. B. Robertson, Mr. James Campbell, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Sir Archibald Orr Ewing, and Mr. Mark Stewart; and two Liberal Unionists, the Hon. W. Fitzwilliam and Mr. A. H. Brown.

"PITCH AND TOSS" IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

An entirely novel spectacle, considering the place, might have been witnessed by any one who happened to be in the lobby of the House of Commons shortly after midnight on Monday. This spectacle (writes the London correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*) consisted of a game of pitch and toss, in which a Tory whip, a Duke's son, an Irish peer, and a sporting Tory took part near the members' entrance to the lobby. There were only a couple of other persons in the lobby at the time, and the game was conducted in a somewhat furtive manner. Whether the stakes were too low, or the game not sufficiently fast, it was abandoned after about a quarter of an hour for a final scrimmage in which these representatives of the gentlemanly party fought with desperate vigour for a coin which lay on the floor, and which was ultimately grabbed by a fellow member who happened to come out of the house.

SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE ON "BRAIN PRESSURE."

Under the auspices of the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical Society a lecture was given at Firth College by James Crichton-Browne, M.D., LL.D., on "brain pressure." The lecturer spoke of the pressure brought upon the brain in the present age, and gave a detailed account of the alteration which takes place in the proportion of brain to body in the human organism from birth to death. He showed that even the skull had reached the limits of its dimensions great changes took place in the structure of the brain, and that its bulk continued to increase to a much later period than was at one time believed. To prove that by exercise the brain of a man developed to a certain stage at which involution began he quoted a number of statistics showing how the labour of workmen beginning at seventeen or eighteen years of age became more and more productive until a given age was reached, when their power to work rapidly began to diminish. This dwindling was not necessarily accompanied by failing health, or impaired sight. Brains were occasionally found, especially among cultivated persons, that did not become attenuated with wear and tear, but continued firm and plump. As an example of this, the lecturer pointed out the size of the hat worn by Mr. Gladstone. The primary condition favourable to brain growth was good bodily growth, and he pointed out that criminals generally had stunted bodies and small brains. That there might be brain growth it was most important there should be a due supply of nutriment. There were thousands of children in this highly favoured land who were insufficiently fed. Could a wholesome diet be secured to every English child until it was twelve years of age one-third of the disease, pauperism, and crime with which the country is burdened would disappear in the next generation. To work an impoverished brain was to increase its misery, expose it to new dangers, and intensify and precipitate the results of its starvation.

THE COMING SOCIAL REVOLUTION.

DR. OGLE ON THE GROWTH OF POPULATION.

An interesting paper on "Marriage Rates and Marriage Ages, with especial reference to the growth of population," was read at a meeting of the Royal Statistical Society at the School of Mines, Jermyn-street, last night. Prefacing his conclusions by the remark that if the prosperity of a State consisted in the material well-being of the people, a country would be most flourishing when the largest proportion of the males of its population were able to maintain themselves, to marry, and to support families, Dr. Ogle said that the fluctuations from year to year in the marriage rate became a fair measure of the ebb and flow of material prosperity. In this country, nowadays, it is not true that the rate goes up when corn is cheap and down when it is dear; on the contrary, for many years the rate has varied not inversely but directly with the price of wheat. The explanation of this apparent paradox is to be looked for in the fact that the price of wheat is largely determined by the cost of transport from abroad. The marriage rate, however, does vary very constantly with the export values. When the proportion of unemployed increases the marriage rate declines, and *vice versâ*.

WHERE THE MARRIAGE RATE IS HIGHEST.

The rate of marriages varies very greatly in different parts of the country. In Lancashire, Notts, Northumberland, and London the rate is invariably high, while in Surrey, Kent, Middlesex, Essex, and Hertfordshire—the registration counties being indicated in each case—it is correspondingly low. The high rate in Bedfordshire is referable in great measure to the fact that in that county young women find employment to a very large extent, marriages being most frequent in a rule where the women can contribute to the family earnings. The women marry earlier, and marry also very young husbands; while in counties where the men earn large wages the proportion of excessively young wives is in excess. Touching on the subject of the balance of the death and birth rates, Dr. Ogle showed that, allowing 4.2 children to each marriage, the legitimate birth rate would be given by 2.9 marriages per 1,000, which meant a personal rate of 7.8 per 1,000. This would produce a stationary population; but as the lowest point to which the rate has ever fallen has been 14.1, it would be necessary, in order to stop the growth of population by mere reduction of marriages, that nearly one-half of the persons who now marry should remain permanently celibate.

PEOPLE ARE OLDER WHEN THEY MARRY.

The mean age at which people have married has, since 1873, been gradually increasing. In 1873 the bachelors averaged 25.6 years and the spinsters 24.2, these being the minimum figures; while in 1888 the ages were respectively at a maximum of 26.3 and 24.7. This difference repeated every year would mean a considerable reduction in the growth of the population. The mean age at marriage in the professional and independent classes is seven years more advanced for men and four years more advanced for women than among miners. One great cause of the permanently celibate in the upper than in the working and artisan classes. Any material diminution in the growth of the people expected from retarded marriage must be obtained by retarding the marriages of women. Shopkeepers, to whom wives were often almost business necessities, least abstain from marriage. Next to them came the artisans and labourers. In the professional and independent class the average age at marriage of the women is about 26½ years.

"THE TIME MUST INEVITABLY COME WHEN ——"

If any equalization of the birth and death rates is to be hoped for by a retardation of the age of marriage, it would not even be sufficient that the marriage ages of women should be all round five years more advanced than at present; if by simple reduction of the marriage rate, it would be necessary that 45 per cent. of the people who now marry should remain celibate. If the equalization is to be accomplished by a combination of the two methods, it would be necessary that, while one-quarter of the women who now marry should remain permanent spinsters, the remaining three-quarters should retard their marriage by five years. Dr. Ogle urged that as the population is increasing in a formidable degree, and as the facilities for emigration are becoming less, the time must inevitably come when the growth of numbers must be stopped and this equalization of the death and birth rates brought about. But any of the remedies mentioned—either emigration, or increase of permanent celibacy, or retardation of marriage—would, Dr. Ogle concluded, have to be applied on a scale so enormously in excess of any experience as to amount to a social revolution.

THE EMPEROR AND THE LABOUR DELEGATES.

During a pause in the deliberations yesterday Prince Bismarck paid a visit to the committee of the Conference presided over by M. Jules Simon. The Chancellor addressed some friendly words to him and afterwards engaged in conversation with the other members present. His visit was only one of courtesy, and no reference whatever was made to political matters. In the evening the members of the conference were entertained to dinner at the Schloss by their Majesties. All the members were present, and many distinguished guests were invited to meet them. After dinner the Emperor and Empress engaged in conversation with their guests. His Majesty spoke with great cordiality, and made an excellent impression on the various foreign members of the Conference.

A Spandau telegram to Reuter says:—Notices were posted up here yesterday afternoon calling upon the men employed in the artillery workshops to appoint ten delegates to negotiate with Major Becker, the acting director, regarding the hours of labour and the establishment of a system of mutual notice of termination of contract.

The committee of the Cobden Club has sent to Lord Salisbury a memorandum of its views on the Labour Conference at Berlin.

THE TERRIBLE FIRE AT INDIANAPOLIS.

A fund has been opened at Washington for the relief of the families of the firemen who lost their lives at the Indianapolis fire. President Harrison heads the list with a contribution of £40, and other officials have subscribed large sums. Every member of Congress has also contributed.—*Reuter.*

IT WILL BE GO?

It will be interesting to see (observes the London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury*) whether Lord Randolph Churchill will attend the meeting summoned by Lord Salisbury. If he be a man of courage, he should meet Lord Salisbury face to face, and warn him that his present policy will in the end ruin the Tory party.

In private, Lord Randolph Churchill, (the London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* says, expresses himself certain that the anger at present aroused against him in the Tory ranks will die away, and that his position, especially in view of the now published memorandum to Mr. Smith, will soon be more clearly understood and appreciated. He laughs at the idea of either a forcible expulsion from the Tory or a voluntary joining of the Liberal party, and he has no idea of creating a vacancy in South Paddington.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CONTROVERSY AS TO INSPIRATION.

The committee of the Presbyterian Church of England, which is engaged in drawing up articles of faith, believe that they have found a satisfactory settlement of the controversy in regard to inspiration. They will unanimously recommend the adoption of a change in the article on the Word of God which, it is believed, will unite all parties.—*Manchester Examiner.*

MDME. PATTI IN NEW YORK.

A Dalziel's telegram from New York says:—The sale of the season tickets for twenty performances of the Adelina Patti Company is closed. The amount realized is £19,400.

THE STORY OF A STATE SENATOR'S ESCAPE.

An Albany telegram to Dalziel states that an ex-State senator, who was sentenced to ten years' hard labour for bank-wrecking some time ago, but admitted to bail pending an appeal, and subsequently announced as dead, is now stated to be alive and residing in Mexico. It seems that the opportune death of a man named Gardner enabled his friends to have the body buried under the same name.

RENEWED DISESTABLISHMENT CAMPAIGN IN LONDON.

The marked advance of the Disestablishment movement, especially in regard to Wales and Scotland, has led the Executive Committee of the Liberation Society to resume the vigorous operations which were carried on up to 1886, but which have been somewhat hindered by subsequent political events, and, in accordance with their policy, they have resolved on special efforts to secure the co-operation of the friends of religious equality in the metropolis, where there is exceptional necessity for the society's work. They are accordingly issuing invitations to a conversazione at the gallery of the Royal Society of British Artists, Suffolk-street, Pall-mall, on Tuesday evening, April 1, at which the society's metropolitan supporters will have an opportunity of holding friendly intercourse, as well as of receiving information relative to parliamentary and ecclesiastical events affecting the society's aims. Mr. Woodall, M.P., will preside, and other members of Parliament and public men have intimated their intention to be present.

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

HOME RAILWAYS DULL.—FOREIGN STOCKS WEAK.—AMERICANS LOWER.—QUIET BUSINESS.

Steadiness is still the chief characteristic of the Money Market, with rather more disposition on the part of dealers in money to advance rates than to allow them to fall away. The discount rate for three months bank paper is still quoted 2⅞ to 3 per cent., but brokers are not by any means free takers at the lower figure, owing to the fact that some of the large banks are restricting their purchases. Short money is much the same as it was yesterday, 3 to 3⅛ per cent. being the current quotation.

There is no improvement either in the amount of business entered into or in the tendency of prices on the Stock Exchange. In home departments operators are worried by the condition of affairs in the coal trade and the fall in South African mining shares, while the market for International securities is affected by fears of what may be disclosed at the Berlin Bourse liquidation at the end of the month. Consols are weak, the quotation for money showing a reduction of ⅛. In the Home Railway market quotations have not moved to any appreciable extent. The traffics in some cases are fairly satisfactory, but the Sheffield company has a comparatively small increase. Foreign stocks are weak and generally lower, except for South American securities, which, considering all things, continue to be wonderfully well supported. Egyptian, French, Hungarian, and Spanish all show a fractional decline. American Railroads have again fallen, though the movements as a rule are slight. The chief selling has been in Northern Pacific Preference. Trunks and Mexican Railway issues are weak, and there is no recovery in South African Mining shares.

Messrs. Heseltine, Powell, and Co. are authorized to receive subscriptions for an issue of £250,000 Five per Cent. Equipment Trust Bonds (1890) of £100 each, of the New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio Railroad Company, at the price of 92½ per cent. Coupons will be payable in sterling in London on June 1 and December 1 in each year, the first coupon falling due December 1, 1890. There is a cumulative sinking fund of 3 per cent. per annum, which will redeem all the bonds by annual drawings in twenty years, so that all the bonds will be paid off at par in sterling by June 1, 1910. The first annual drawing will take place on the second Tuesday in May, 1891. for repayment on June 1, 1891, and all bonds drawn at this or subsequent drawings will be paid at the agency of the Company in London.

The gross traffic receipts of the North British Railway Company during the past half-year showed an increase of £59,930, of which only £3,069 was derived from passengers. The expenditure increased £36,512, about £30,000 of which was due to locomotive power and general traffic expenses.

RAILWAY TRAFFICS.—*Increases*: Midland, £11,104; North Eastern, £9,614; Great Eastern, £1,334; North Staffordshire, £547; Sheffield, £521; Lancashire and Yorkshire, £326; Metropolitan District, £105; Eastern and Midland, £91; Metropolitan, £76.

TRAMWAY TRAFFICS.—*Increases*: London Street, £358; Provincial, £59; London, £665; North Metropolitan, £568; Belfast, £146; Southampton, £17; London Southern, £32; South London, £128; Sheffield, £59; Calcutta, £27; Continental Metropolitan, £228; Gothenburg, £41; Sunderland, £22; Swansea, £21; Glasgow, £329; Edinburgh, £116; Bordeaux, £48. *Decreases*: Bristol, £98; Imperial, £13; and Calais, £3.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet with a small demand. Probable sales 6,000 bales. Futures are one and a half to two points down.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Caledonian, North Western, North Eastern, and North British Deferred ⅛ each. *Receded*: Brighton Deferred, Sheffield Deferred, and North British Preferred ⅛ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced*: Argentine Four and a Halfper Cents. 1888 ½, ditto Three and a Half per Cent. External ¼, Greek Monopoly ¼, and Turkish Defence ¼. *Declined*: Turkish Group 1, Uruguay Six per Cents., French Four and a Half per Cents., and Hungarian Gold ¼ each, Egyptian Unified and Daira, and Spanish ⅜, Peruvian Six per Cents. ½, and the Five per Cents. 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Risen*: Philadelphia and Reading and Union Pacific shares ⅜ each. *Fallen*: Northern Pacific Preference ¾, Denver Preference, Lake Shore, and Louisville and Nashville ½, Atlantic First Mortgage, Wabash Preference and Mortgage ¼, Milwaukee, Ontario, and Erie shares ⅜, and Pennsylvania shares ⅝.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Lower*: Mexican First and Second Preference ¼, the Ordinary ⅛, Grand Trunk Guaranteed and Second Preference, and Canadian Pacific shares ⅛ each.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved*: Tharsis 1-16. *Receded*: De Beers and Oceana Land ¼, Mason and Barry and New Exploration Gold Fields of South Africa ⅛ each, and Ottoman Bank 1-16.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols (2½) Money	97	⅛
Do. Account	97⅛	⅛
Do. 1905	99	⅛
New 2½ per Cents.	94⅝	⅝
Local Loans Stock	103¼	¼
India 3½ per Cents.	107¼	¼
Do. 4½ p. c. Rc.	71⅝	⅝xd
Egyptian Guar.	103	1
Rc. of England 3½	99½	½
Met. Bd. W. 4½ p.c.	111½	12
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip	102	½
Birmgham 3½ p. c.	110	11
Liverpool 3 p. c.	107	17
Liverpool 3½ p. c.	112	½
Manchester 4 p. c.	129	8
COLONIAL SECURITIES.		
Canada 4 p. c. Reg.	107	9
Canada 3 p. c. Reg.	93½	6½
Cape 6 p. c. Gaus Ins	109½	10½
Ceylon 4 p. c. Ins.	110½	11½
Mauritius 4 p. c. Ins.	107	8
Natal 4 p. c. C 1877	100	10
N. S. Wales Ins 1903	112	14
" 3½ 1924	101½	2½
New Zld 4½ p.c. Cons	107½	8½
Queensld 5 p.c. Ins	120½	10½
S. Austrln. 4 p.c. Reg.	107½	8½xd
Victoria 4 p.c. of 1885	111½	12½
W. Australia 6 p.c.	111	11
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentn 4½ p.c. 1888	70½	7
Do. 3½ p.c. Extn.	59½	60½
Do. Cedulas A	42¾	⅞
Do. B	43	⅝
Austrian Gold	93	5
Silver	74	6
Brazilian 4½ 1889	86½	⅝
Do. (Coffee)	5	½
Do. " (partly pd)	12	11 4th
B. Ayres 6 p.c. 1883	93½	100½
" Cedulas "I"	32¼	3½
" " "J"	33¼	3½
" "	89½	90½
Bulgarian	102	4
Chilian 4½ pc. 1892	102	4
Costa Rica A	7	2
" B	87	9
Ecuador, New	23½	4½
Egypt. State Dom.	103¾	4¾
Do. Unified	103½	12
Egypt. Preference	104¼	½
Do. Daira Sanieh	84¼	½
French 3 p.c. Rentes	97¾	8¼
Do. 4½ p.c. 1891	104¾	¾
Greek 5 p.c. 1881-4	90½	1
Do. 4 p. c. Mon.	75¾	¾
Hung. Gold Rentes	96¾	¾
Italian	91½	⅜
Mexican 6 p.c. 1888	95¾	¾
Peruvian 5 p.c. 1872	17	¾
Do. 6 p. c.	20¼	¾
Portuguese 3 p.c.	42⅞	⅜
Russian 4 p. c. 1889	94½	⅝
Spanish 4 p. c.	73 7/16	⅜
Turkish, 1865	102	4
Conv. A	39¼	40¼xd
Do. B	24⅜	¾xd
Do. D	17⅞	⅜
4½ p. c. 1873	97¾	¾
5 p. c. Defence	102½	3
5 p. c. Priority	95	7 xd
Uruguay Unified	72¾	5½
Do. 6 p.c. 1888	85¾	6¾
Virginia Funded	45¾	6½
U.S. 4½ p. c.	105½	6½
BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Brighton Ordinary	134	6
Do. A	190¼	¾
Chatham Ordinary	23	¼
Do. Preference	109	½
Caledonian	123	¼
Great Eastern	84½	½
Great Northern	120	2
Do. A	101¾	¾
Great Western	161½	⅝
Hull and Barnsley	87¼	¼
Lanc. and York.	120	1
North Western	175¾	6
South Western	154	⅝
March. and Sheff.	66	8
Do. A	45	¾
Metro. Consolidated	75½	6
Do. District	29¼	30½
Midland	141¾	¾
North Brit. Pref.	78¾	⅜
Do. Def.	61	¾
North Eastern	165¾	4½
North Stafford	110	12
South Eastern	129	31
Do. Deferred	103½	½
Taff Vale	9	
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	74½	⅝
Cen. Pacific Shares	83	¾
Chic. Mil. and St. Pl	70¾	⅝
Denver & R. Grande	15¾	⅞
Do. Preference	47¾	1¼
Illinois Shares	117½	18¾
Lake Shore	110	¾
Louis & Nash.	80¾	¾
Miss. Kan. & Texas	10½	11
N.Y. Central Shares	110¾	11¾
New York Ontario	18¾	⅝
N. Y. Erie Shares	25¾	⅝
Do. Second Mort.	104¾	¼
Norfolk & West. Pref	62	¾
N.Y., P. & O. Ist M	33½	4
North Pacific Pref.	75¾	1 xd
Ohio & Mississippi	20¼	1¾
Pennsylvania Sh.	55⅜	6
Phil & Read. Sh.	20½	⅞
Union Pacific Shares	43¾	⅜
Wabash Preferred	31½	2
Do. Gen. Mort.	90	1
Grand Trunk Def.	10½	⅝
Do. First Pref.	72¾	¾
Do. Second Pref.	40	¾
Do. Third Pref.	27¼	⅞
Do. Guaranteed	77	¼
Mexican Ordinary	37	¼
Do. First Pref.	113	½
Ob. do. 2nd Pref.	73	½
Mexican Central	15¾	1⅜
Mexican National	58	6
Lombardo-Venetian	11¾	⅜
Nitrate Railway	10	½
Tahal	4¾	5⅛
B. Ayres & Rosario	153	62
Do. Great Southern	109	5
Central Argentine	143	5 xd
S. Paulo (Braz.)	44	6
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	141½	15½
City Bank	221½	3½
Colonial	60	2
Consolidated Bank	21¾	¼
Imperial	19¾	20½
Imperial Ottoman	113	½
London and County	36	40
Lloyds	27	8
Lon. and Westmin.	70	1
London Joint Stock	49½	1½
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	16½	7½
Provincial of Ireland	24	¾
Stand. Bk. of S. A.	55	7
Union of London	41½	2½
National Discount	11½	12
TRUSTS.		
Fn. & Ct. Gov. Def.	135	8
Gov. Stk. Invst. Df.	110	11
Lon. and N.Y. Inv.	6¼	7
Stock Conversion	1½	¾
South African Gold	2½	⅜
Trus., Exc., & Sec.	6¼	⅜
MINING & LAND.		
Indian Con. Gold	2/3	2/9
Mysore Gold	9⅛	⅜
Oregum Gold	2 3/16	5/16
Cape Copper	3⅛	⅛
Namaqua	1⅛	2⅛
Mason & Barry	6½	⅜
Rio Tinto	15 11/16	13/16
Tharsis	6⅛	⅛
Montana	1 3/16	⅛
De Beers	16¾	⅛
Griqualand West	5¾	⅛
Oceana Agencies	12⅛	¼
City and Suburban	57¼	60½
Jumper's Gold	6	⅛
Jubilees	4½	⅛
Robinson	¾	
Salisbury	4¾	6½
Sutherland Reef	2⅜	4
S. Afcn. Exploring	19¾	¾
Do. New	1 15/16	7/16pm
G. F. of Sth. Afrca	3¾	4¼
Exploring Co	15	18
Oceana Land	5¼	⅝
Southern Land	1	¾pm
Transvaal Land	⅜	⅜pm
TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE		
Anglo-American	49	50
Do. Preferred	83	4
Brazilian Submarine	12¾	⅜
Direct United States	10½	¾
Eastern	14	⅛
Do. Extension	14	⅛
Globe Telgr. Trust	87½	¾
National Telephone	5¾	⅜
OMNIBUS AND TRAM		
Lon. Gen. Om.	175	85
London Road Car	8¾	⅜
London Street	13	⅛
Union Pacific Tram	14¼	15½
North Metropolitan	138½	19
WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterwks.	280	
East London	211	15
Grand Junction	122	6
Kent	170	5
Lambeth	284	8
New River, New	360	5
Sthwk & Vxhall	191	5
Sarpaso	2¾	⅜
West Middlesex	280	5
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT		
Gaslight & Coke A	247	50
Imp. Continental	217	22
South Metropolitan	230	5
Do. B	234	8
Do. C	230	40
London Electric	2¾	3½
Metrplitan Electric	5¼	6
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp's	7¼	⅜
Bell's Asbestos	12¾	¾
Guinness and Co.	240½	½
Hotchkiss	4¾	5⅛xd
Maxim-Nordenfelt	1¾	2⅛
Bryant and May	15¾	⅝
Eastman's Ord	13½	3⅜xd
Elmore's Copper, &c	6⅛	⅜
Spratt's Patent	7¾	⅝
Liverpool Nitrate	11	13
Colorado Nitrate	3½	4
Primitiva Nitrate	14½	15
Rosario	2½	3⅜
Sua Palla	2¾	⅜
San Jorge	5¾	6⅜
San Donato	2⅛	3
Tamargal	2	⅜
Salt Union Shares	11	¾xd
P. and O. Steam Def.	197	202
Royal Mail Steam	70	3
Hudson's Bay	19¾	20¼
Suez Canal	81¾	⅜
E. & W. India Docks	16	18
Lon. & St. K. Dock	22	¾

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Mr. Gladstone intends to spend Easter at Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire, as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Flower. His last visit there was two years ago, on his recovery from a severe illness.

⁂

When members returned from the division on the Scotch Right of Way Bill last night, the report was circulated that on the impression that the Government would be defeated finding expression in the Opposition lobby, Mr. Chamberlain, to whom the observation seemed to have been addressed, quietly remarked, "I hope they may be!"

⁂

The young lady journalist who has been lobbying during the past few days in the interest of the *Woman's Penny Paper* scored a point last night on behalf of her demand for the admission of ladies to the Reporters' Gallery, in the admission elicited by Mr. Bradlaugh from the Speaker that there exists no law or order against the admission of women to the Gallery. Since she so pluckily raised the question, the lady, by the way, has received four requests for "interviews" in the interest of other journals, one request for her portrait for publication, and one offer of marriage!

⁂

"Mr. Kennan," writes an American correspondent, "is very busy: he is delivering two hundred lectures this season, and expects to lecture again in this country next autumn and winter. Of course I know nothing of his future movements, but with his plans for lecturing here and the preparing of his book, and the magazine articles, I think it extremely improbable that he will be able to lecture in England soon."

⁂

Lord Cadogan is improving the gardens called after him, and improving the rents also. One of the contemplated "improvements" is almost a social disaster. The studio of Felix Moscheles is threatened with annihilation. It certainly did not seem to do much harm: no one could accuse it of being pretentious; it shut out no light from neighbours, it defaced the roadway with no preposterous elevation. There really seems no reason for its removal; there are many for its retention. For near a quarter of a century it has been the haunt of singers, players, composers, artists, patriots, and poets. Browning has spent many an hour there, Gounod has improvised, Modjeska has declaimed. Joachim played here when he was a boy, while George Eliot listened and Lewes showed the admiration he felt. There seems something like sacrilege in destroying the home of so many associations. Perhaps Lord Cadogan may be induced to think twice before, in the rage for improvement, he damages so irretrievably his own property.

⁂

Sir Walter De Souza writes to the *Standard* to say that, "as founder of the Home for Widows and Orphans at Calcutta," he thinks that the loftiness of his motives in the hostile action which he has taken against his lady colleagues on the County Council ought not to have been mistaken. It is satisfactory to hear that Sir Walter De Souza has founded a Home for Widows and Orphans. It is very creditable to him that he has done so. And presumably the excuse for citing the fact in connection with the attempt to get from the ladies £250 in penalties, instead of the £5 which would equally have tested the point of law, is that it is to the Home for Widows and Orphans at Calcutta that Sir Walter intends to devote the proceeds.

⁂

The name of the place where Sir Henry Loch and Mr. Rhodes have been meeting President Kruger in friendly colloquy is not Blijnant's Point (as some of the reports very excusably derange the unfamiliar name), but Blignaut's Pont. It is a point where the coach-road from Kimberley to Johannesburg crosses the Vaal River. A "pont" is a large raft used for ferrying purposes, and is the only means of crossing the river, which is about a quarter of a mile broad. The pont is large enough to take two coaches at once, with their teams of twelve horses each.

⁂

The now familiar automatic machines to be found at railway stations and other places of public resort are destined to have an interesting addition to their number. This is no other than an automatic photographer. Put your penny in the slot, and hey, presto! there is your counterfeit presentment. The photographer, amateur or professional, who is familiar with the chemical processes of development, will hardly credit the statement, but there is no doubt it can be done. The West-end producer of artistic cabinets need not be alarmed; but, with the advent of the automatic machine, the itinerant photographer who haunts the borders of Epping Forest and Hampstead Heath, or the banks of the Thames, will find his vocation gone. He will be unable to compete against the automaton which does its work for a single copper.

⁂

The person who wishes to be photographed stands in front of the machine at a distance of about two and a half feet, and looks steadily into the lens for the space of five seconds. The sound of a gong informs him when the operation is over. The interior machinery then passes the tin plate on which the likeness is taken through a chemical bath in order to develop the picture, and another to secure its permanence, and finally through a water-bath, where it is washed. In less than fifty seconds the finished portrait is ejected, and if you are in a spendthrift mood you can for another halfpenny obtain a gilt frame. The first machine which has been made was exhibited yesterday at the works of Messrs. George Salter and Co. at West Bromwich, to a number of London and local pressmen. The proprietors believe that there is money in it.

⁂

Mr. Barnett has recently issued his annual appeal for help in the matter of attendance during his Easter picture-show. The circular requests "any one willing to take watches" to communicate with him. In response to this somewhat enigmatically-worded circular the following reply has been received:—

honnerd sir i rite has i ave Red your notis four men to take Watches and i no arf a Dosen andy Ladds has can do the Trik an can Find a convenant place in spittalfields to stow the swag. i no you Bos them piters the not on the notiss if you mene Bianes im Fly and will look in pretty soon—yours truly, BILY.

Probably "Bily" is only a practical joker, and will not put in an appearance; but the Exhibition Committee will be glad nevertheless to hear of ladies and gentlemen willing, not so much to watch the watches, but to prevent undue crushing and to talk about the pictures.

⁂

As the booksellers' discount question is on the *tapis* just now, it seems fitting that the public should know something of James Lackington, the last-century bookseller, to whom they are indebted, in some measure at least, for the present discount system. The name of Lackington, judging from the manner in which it was referred to by a discount bookseller the other day, as reported in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, appears (writes a correspondent) to be as little held in repute by his successors in the book trade, as the worthy bookseller himself was by his professional contemporaries. Lackington, who had originally been a shoemaker, began business in 1774 in Featherstone-street. After remaining there fourteen years he removed to Chiswell-street, Finsbury-square, where his business increased to such an extent that by 1791 he sold as many as 100,000 volumes annually, "many thousands of which," he relates in his autobiography—a curious and now rare volume, entitled, "Memoirs of the Forty-five First Years of the Life of James Lackington."—"would have been destroyed but for my selling them at very moderate terms"—terms which must nevertheless have been sufficiently remunerative, for the profits amounted to over £4,000 a year.

⁂

Lackington dedicated his "Memoirs" to the public and to the respectable and the sordid booksellers, the last class being thus quaintly addressed:—"And, lastly, though not least in fame, to those sordid and malevolent booksellers, whether they resplendent dwell in stately mansions or in wretched huts of dark and grovelling obscurity, to whose assiduous and unwearied labours to injure his reputation with their brethren and the public he is in a considerable degree indebted for the success he has been honoured with, productive of his present prosperity." Lackington conducted his business both shrewdly and methodically, a record was kept of the smallest business transaction, and the sales and expenditure of his ready-money business squared every day. On the carriage in which Lackington rode to business in his later years there was inscribed the legend, "Small profits do great things."

HATCHARDS, Booksellers, 187, Piccadilly, W.—All the New and Standard Books discount 6d. in the shilling. Post orders promptly executed.

CROMWELL REDIVIVUS.

REMARKABLE PETITION OF THE BOERS.

That the Boer of the Transvaal has no objection to the British "outlander" as British, but only as non-Boer, is shown by the petition to the Government against Hollander officials in the country which has been extensively signed among the burghers. A copy of the petition has been forwarded to us by a Cape correspondent, who remarks that "in language and feeling it savours strongly of the Cromwellian age." The composition does indeed curiously mingle the obligations of piety with the disposal of the public loaves and fishes. After remarking, quite in Psalmist style, "how wonderfully Providence has guided the *voortrekkers*" to the promised land of the Transvaal, and how while "bending under the yoke" of the British annexation, they "approached earthly kings and monarchs" all in vain, the petition proceeds:—

It was only the Almighty who had the power to save, and when we approached Him, and Him only, we, a despised nation, could take up the arms and strive against one of the mightiest nations of the world, and also crown our efforts with success. But we have made a solemn promise to the Lord, that we, during the days of our lives, not only recognize Him as our only God, but would serve Him. We have promised that we would work hand in hand to advance the growth of our State, and also to support our Government. The people have desired, and have unanimously decided, and by our leaders a promise was made, that if it pleased the Lord to restore our liberty, we, in the future, would not allow any foreigners in our offices as officials, but true Afrikanders.

And now, honoured sirs, we find that all over the State, and more especially on the Goldfields, the public offices are being filled with Hollanders, which is diametrically in opposition to the solemn promises pledged to the people. They are foreigners and strangers, who not only scoff God, His Word, and religion, but look down on our faithful burghers with contempt; therefore it is that we in all earnest protest against this, and will persist in protesting until such time as every foreigner has been turned out of the service of this country, because when we were in trouble and threatened with danger, our burghers have stood true and steadfastly together until such time as, by God's help, victory was gained; yes, the Lord has, above all, blessed our country with the richest temporary blessings.

Those who are inclined to be impatient of the slow-moving policy of President Kruger may gather from this remarkable production the nature of the material with which he has to deal.

CAMBRIDGE NEWS.

The following Entrance Scholarships have been awarded at Corpus Christi College:—

In Classics: £50 to E. H. M. Waller, Highgate; £40 to H. W. Moule, King's School, Canterbury (nephew of the College tutor); and £30 to A. R. Whately, Blackheath.

In Mathematics: £40 to J. A. Easten, St. Peter's, York; £40 to F. G. Masters, Perse School, Cambridge; and £40 to H. C. Scott, Westminster.

The next entrance examination at Girton College will be held in June in London, and at other centres if a sufficient number of candidates present themselves. A scholarship examination will be held at the same time, at which seven scholarships, from £30 to £75 a year for three years, will be given in Classics, Mathematics, Natural Science, or Modern Languages.

THE MADRAS SLAVE TRADE.

Information has been received in London which leaves no doubt of the extent of the horrible traffic described as "the Madras slave trade," the existence of which has hitherto been only suspected. At a trial at Rangoon, one witness a Madragese girl, declared that she had been forcibly put on board a steamer at Negapatam, taken to Rangoon, and sold for eighty rupees. Another girl, who was seized as she was proceeding to join her husband, was taken to a house, kept in close prisoner for three days, and then sold for ninety rupees. In fact, sufficient evidence was given to show that, although Rangoon is supposed to have an ample police force, the importation and selling of girls goes on systematically. The facts have been sent to more than one member of Parliament, so that the matter will in all probability receive parliamentary attention.

TERRIBLE DEATH OF TWO CHILDREN.

A Daliziel's telegram from Rome says:—The bodies of two little children were discovered yesterday in a strong box which had been placed in a baggage van at the railway station here. Their hands and feet were injured and blood-stained. On inquiry being made it was discovered that they were the children of a poor woman who had been searching for them for five or six days. It is supposed that they found the strong box open, and entered it in play, when the door closed upon them automatically. The baggage van having been shunted to a remote corner of the station the cries of the poor children were not heard. The mother, finding her children dead, became frantic, and is still in a delirious condition.

A TRIUMPH OF SURGERY.

A novel operation has been performed in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. A farmer was suffering from a diseased leg bone, induced by an accident. On medical advice he came to the infirmary and was put under the care of Mr. Miller, surgeon, who determined to remove the diseased portion and substitute an ox rib. The operation was performed a month ago, and it seems it has been so successful that the man will be about again shortly with a limb as strong and healthy as ever.

MUSICAL MEMS.

One of the events of the past few days has been the publication by Messrs. Chappell of the song, "Tell me not," which was found among the late Carl Rosa's papers. The song is well written for a soprano of moderate compass, and has a plaintive character in the melody which is sure to make it a favourite with those who like a touch of melancholy in their songs.

Another Norwegian pianist is threatened. M. Arthur de Greef, who has won some renown abroad, will make his appearance in London at the Popular Concerts on Saturday and Monday next.

Dr. Henry Wylde was laid to rest in the Kilburn Cemetery yesterday. Many of his large circle of friends, including a fair sprinkling of past and present pupils of the London Academy of Music, assembled on the sad occasion, and some who were prevented from attending sent tokens of their kindly remembrance of one who was so universal a favourite. It is understood that Dr. Wylde left no will or any instruction as to the future conduct of the teaching academy in Mortimer-street.

Candidates are already in the field for the vacant chair of Gresham Professor of Music, which the late Dr. Wylde held for upwards of twenty-six years. It is far older than any similar professorship now existing at a British University, and the possible influence to be wielded by it is very great.

The Playgoers Club celebrated its sixth anniversary with a concert at the Albion Hotel, Covent-garden, last night.

Mr. Edgar Tinel's oratorio of "Franciscus," which has been remarkably successful on the Continent, will be given for the first time in England at the Westminster Town Hall next Tuesday.

In spite of various definite statements already made, it is impossible to tell exactly the amount realized from the concert given on March 11 for the Arabella Goddard Testimonial Fund, but it will be over £500. The receipts were about £630, and the expenses probably a little in excess of £80. Messrs. Chappell have also received donations to the amount of £750; but this will not be the full amount subscribed, as Miss Laroche and some others have collected some sums of money which will be received later on.

MR. JOHN ROBERTSON'S CONCERT.

Princes' Hall was fairly filled with an audience drawn together by the combined attractions of Mr. and Mrs. Henschell and M. Nachez, the violinist. The programme was further padded with the performances of the Sutcliffe Quartette, Mr. J. Robertson, and one Master Jack Davids. Why Jack was allowed to play outside the schoolroom is not evident. The child is not a prodigy, though with some hopeful qualities of tone and accent; but attempts to force these callow fledglings into premature flights should be resisted by the public. Needless to say, poor little Jack cut a poor little figure, with the Henschells on one side and the great violin virtuoso, Nachez, on the other—needless to say that Master Jack, worse luck! was roundly but unadvisedly applauded. Still Master Jack will do well enough if he sticks to practice and keeps out of sight for at least three years more. Mr. and Mrs. Henschell were as fascinating as ever in a setting of "Oh, that we two were maying," and Mr. Henschell gave a masterly rendering of "Henry the Fowler," accompanying himself, and afterwards his wife, in one of his own characteristic songs, "Farewell of an Arab Hostess." But the sensation of the evening was Nachez's superb performance of a new Swedish rhapsody of his own. The chromatic octaves, the flights of notes that hung in clouds round the theme that leapt forth in clear harmonics, recalled the best traditions of Paganini—his splendid tone and pathetic phrasing places Nachez in the front rank of romantic violinists. Mr. J. Robertson, who sang "The Message," is not blessed with much sense of time or musical rhythm, and sorely tried his accompanyist; but he has an agreeable tenor and knows how to use it. There was a good deal of applause and no encores.

CADBURY'S COCOA is absolutely pure and untampered with. It has stood the keenest analytical tests, and consists solely of the concentrated essence of the Cocoa bean, the flavour being developed and the aroma improved by a special process of roasting.

MR. BALFOUR AS A GOLFER.

HIS SUCCESS AT EASTBOURNE.

A golf correspondent sends the following:—There has been some very interesting play on the links during the last few days. The presence of the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, who is an old golfer, and Lord Cranborne, combined with the unusually brilliant weather, attracted a large number of visitors, who followed the players with keen interest. Mr. Horace Hutchinson arranged a number of foursomes for the benefit of the visitors, and we sincerely trust that this short holiday has completely restored Mr. Balfour to health. On Friday afternoon Mr. Hutchinson and Lord Cranborne played Mr. C. E. Nesham and Mr. Balfour, the latter pair winning by 2 up and 1 to play. On Saturday morning Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Balfour beat Captain Lyon and Captain Best by two holes; and in the afternoon Mr. Balfour and Captain Lyon beat Mr. Hutchinson and Lord Cranborne by two holes. On Monday the same players competed, and again Mr. Balfour's side was successful, though only by one hole. It is noticeable that in all these matches Mr. Balfour has been successful. One little piece of attention he could, perhaps, have dispensed with. As he was about to put at the Compton Place hole on Monday, an officious spectator in a clergyman's garb stepped forward and presented him with a cutting from the *Standard* of an abusive letter which some opponent had contributed by way of reply to one of the right hon. gentleman's effective letters. Whether this officious gentleman intended to do a service, or was merely burning for notoriety, is an open question; but if the former, it is obvious that, when a hard-worked Cabinet Minister is out for a brief holiday, the kindest service we can do him is to try and help him to forget that there is such a thing as the Irish question.

"LA NONA."—IS THE "NEW DISEASE" A HOAX?

In order to obtain some definite information on the subject of the so-called new disease, *la nona*, which is exercising the minds of Italian physicians just now, a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* visited several well-known English physicians yesterday and asked their opinions.

Sir Morell Mackenzie, whose large acquaintance with Continental diseases is acknowledged, said:—"I don't know anything about this complaint; indeed, I do not believe in it at all. I am inclined to think it is a 'put up' affair to advertise some 'sleeping wonder,' and that is all about it."

Dr. Donelan, of 2, Upper Wimpole-street, said:—"I do not think there is any resemblance between the symptoms of *pellagra* and those described in the so-called *la nona*. There are no cases of trance recorded as having occurred after previous epidemics of influenza, but though there are cases in which bad food produced such a lowering of the circulation as to cause gangrene of the fingers and toes, I think it scarcely possible that influenza, even when occurring in persons whose constitutions have become debilitated from the use of impure food, such as bread made from diseased rye or maize, could produce such a state of anæmia of the brain as to cause a condition of sleep or trance. There are many remarkable cases of trance on record, and unfortunately there have been, especially in France, too many cases of premature burial, but I am not aware of any sleeping disease affecting Europeans in epidemic form. There is, of course, the African lethargy, or sleeping disease of Sierra Leone, but that affects negroes exclusively, and is fatal. I do not think we are likely to have any cases of *la nona*—if any such disease really exists—among the well-fed people of this country."

HOW THE PRINCESSES WERE DRESSED.

At the St. Martin's-lane function yesterday afternoon (writes a lady correspondent) the Princess of Wales looked her prettiest, in a light fawn skirt, made quite plainly, except for the band of brown velvet headed by a gold braid, which bordered it. Her dark heliotrope cloth jacket had a V-shaped flounced cape and high-shouldered sleeves of violet velvet. Her small heliotrope bonnet had a bunch of feathery yellow flowers. The Princesses Victoria and Maud were dressed alike in tailor-made dresses and short round jackets of light fawn cloth, small brown velvet turban hats with speckled wings, and brown fur boas. Bouquets of beautiful flowers were presented to the Princess and her daughters by some little girls dressed in white.

THE JUNIOR CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB.

The Junior Constitutional Club has raised a building fund of £120,000 for the construction of its new abode. It is calculated that there will be a surplus over all expenses of £10,000 for the club to start housekeeping on. I understand that the new buildings will be in no way inferior to those of the Constitutional Club, while the class of members is steadily improving.

FATHER IGNATIUS AND THE WESLEYANS.

Father Ignatius, the Abbot of Llanthony, has been invited to pay a visit to the Wesleyan College at Handsworth. He intends to go there to-morrow, if his health will permit. This is no new experience to Father Ignatius, for he is well used to preaching in Calvinistic chapels in Wales. Amongst his "spiritual children" he includes a Wesleyan minister, who attended the jubilee celebration at the abbey, who carried a wax taper, wore a white surplice, and conformed in every particular to the ritual of the ceremony, which was, of course, exceedingly High Church.

A DINNER TO THE HON. JAMES MUNRO.

The Hon. James Munro (leader of the Opposition in the Victoria Parliament) is to be entertained at dinner at the National Liberal Club on Saturday evening, by Mr. Caine, M.P., when a select party of those specially interested in temperance reform and labour questions—with both of which Mr. Munro has been actively identified—will be invited.

THE NEW EDUCATION CODE.

Copies of the proposed new Education Code will be circulated on Friday. One of the most interesting features will be a provision for manual teaching in all elementary schools, which the Committee of Council have decided upon after much anxious consideration.

THE FUTURE OF KENSINGTON PALACE.

The Government will soon have to consider what is to be done with Kensington Palace (writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*). If there is much delay it may be condemned by the Kensington vestry as a dangerous structure. As to the greater part, it is empty, neglected, and decaying. There is a strong feeling against its demolition, and a recommendation will be made to the First Commissioner of Works to suggest to her Majesty that the palace should be given up for the purposes of some sort of museum or gallery of paintings, in which case the House of Commons would probably be willing to entertain a considerable vote for the necessary repairs and rebuilding.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTER ETCHERS.

In pursuance of their object of rendering the annual exhibition as instructive as possible, the Council of this society have decided to hold a conversazione in the Gallery on Saturday evening next, the chief point of interest on the occasion being an address, which it is announced will be given by the president, Mr. Seymour Haden.

⁂

It is proposed to hold a grand volunteer review at Montreal on the occasion of the visit of the Duke of Connaught.—*Daliziel.*

M. Zola, who is a candidate for a seat in the Academy, lunched on Sunday with the Duc d'Aumale at Chantilly.

The number of books printed in France last year was 14,849, and the number of musical compositions 5,874.

The French Anti-Semitic party intends to bring forward a number of anti-Semitic candidates to contest the forthcoming Paris municipal elections.

The French Chamber has refused to permit the prosecution of the Socialist deputy General Cluseret for his articles directed against the middlemen of the Central Markets.

M.P. (in cab stopped at entrance of the House of Commons on night of count-out): "What! House counted out?" Policeman: "Yes, sir; counted out ten minutes ago." M.P. (to cabby): "Drive to the Empire."

Last evening Exeter Hall was crowded with an enthusiastic company of Salvationists, on the occasion of the celebration of the ninth anniversary of the Army in France and Switzerland.

The directors of Kew Gardens have presented the Colonial Institute with some specimens of the first crop of coffee beans grown in the New Hebrides. The beans are rather small, but great expectations are formed as to the future of this industry in the New Hebrides after the soil has become accustomed to the coffee plant.

Owing to Sir William Houldsworth's absence from the House of Commons during the Berlin Labour Conference, Mr. Samuel Smith will withdraw his motion in favour of an international conference on bimetallism, and a fresh ballot will be taken to obtain if possible a Tuesday instead of a Friday for the discussion of the motion.

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand 10s. 6d. per month) three years' system. Illustrated List free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 48, Southampton-row, Holborn, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

DECLARATION OF THE FRENCH CABINET.

THE AMELIORATION OF "THE TOILING PEOPLE."

A Reuter's telegram from Paris yesterday says:—The new Cabinet met the Chambers to-day, when its statement of policy was read from the tribune. It began by stating that the Ministry had a keen appreciation of its responsibility and duties, and would conform its conduct to the wishes which the country had expressed. "We shall, like our predecessors," continued the declaration, "know how to defend with vigour not only our Republican institutions, but the entire Democratic work in which we owe to previous Legislatures. We appeal with sincere cordiality to all sections of the Republican party, and our object will be to effect the union of all its forces. We exclude none, and we shall welcome to the Republican field all men who come to work with us for the development of economic and social reforms. We shall thus come to found that broad, open, tolerant, peaceable Republic which is the final condition and the much-desired term of the conflicts through which we are passing. The country has affirmed its wish to place the Customs régime on a new basis, and awaits the expiration of the Treaties of Commerce of 1892 to fix new tariffs, and it intends to demand, after the matter has been maturely studied, more effective protection for the agriculture and labour of the nation. The Government frankly associates itself with that idea, and will take measures that nothing shall fetter the liberty of Parliament in 1892, even with regard to the friendly nation whose commercial relations with France recently formed the subject of the Senate's deliberations. We live in a time of social transformation, when the condition of the working classes is justly the object of special consideration. The first duty of the powers is to turn to the toiling people, and make their advance to a better position easier for them. No Government can escape this duty, and a Republic is bound to be actuated by it more than any other. We shall shortly propose laws tending to develop mutual aid, providence, the spirit of reciprocity, in a word all the elements of progressive improvement for the lot of the workers, and thus providing them with a means of subsistence in their old age. We do not think it necessary to enter upon a detailed programme or to enumerate the bills which events sometimes condemn to be nothing more than promises. You will judge us by our acts. We aim at being a Government in the true acceptation of the word. A Government has not only to have the laws carried out at home, but to secure respect for France abroad.

THE PRINCE AND THE FAIR PHOTOGRAPHER.

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS EN FETE.

Once upon a time there lived a young lady and her brother. She was beautiful, enthusiastic, and an amateur photographer, and so loyal that she yearned with a great yearning for a picture of her future King taken with her own fair hands and her own camera. The brother was her slave, and together they agreed on an infamous plot against the Prince of Wales—they determined to "pot" his Royal Highness at the memorial-stone laying of the new parochial buildings and free library in St. Martin's-lane yesterday. If they could get a negative of the Royal Consort as well, so much the better. Entering the gaily-decked marquee some hour before it was necessary, the two conspirators began their elaborate preparations. What lightness of touch and gentleness of patting and coaxing they showed in the manipulation of their apparatus! Presently, objurgations from the rear were heard, but the Photographic Enthusiast went on with her preparations unheeding, loyally helped by fraternal hands. At last the opportunity came—and it did their Royal Highnesses. But not yet was the deed done. The Royal visitors having been met by the vicar and churchwardens, Mr. W. H. Smith and other parishioners, the children of the vicar (Mr. Kitto) presented bouquets to the Princess. Then the choir sang "From all that dwell below the skies," and the Bishop of London delivered up a fitting prayer. And then Mr. Kitto read an address (he is chairman of the vestry as well as vicar of the parish), and the moment had come. H.R.H. has a keen eye, and had "spotted" the camera—but escape was impossible, and there was nothing to screen the august countenance. A compromise was possible, and was adopted. The Prince turned his profile to the instrument of torture, and cast his gaze at his boots. Meanwhile Mr. Kitto was reading his historical paper. Quietly and gingerly the cap was removed from the lens—was held away a second or two—and the deed was done. Then one could hear that Mr. Kitto was telling how that 200 years ago the site was a field, and "a pond occupied the very spot on which your Highness now stands." Mr. Smith looked somewhat scandalised at this. Then the usual complaint, which, with a butter-dish, for the benefit of Macaulay's New Zealander, a flourish of the silver trowel—and the stone was *not* laid! For some time there appeared to be a hitch—but at last Mr. Walker, the architect, and Messrs. Mowlem and Burt, the contractors, had the satisfaction of knowing that the stone was "laid and truly laid." Then followed a short religious ceremony as regards the library. The progress thitherward seemed to afford another chance for the P. E.—but no, the crowd rushed up and made it out of the question. The Westminster Volunteers were in attendance, and the police, in force, did their duty energetically. Mr. Smith made a little speech to H.R.H. but a steam crane effectually closed him after he had said something about the Royal "interest in pleasant free institutions." The function was at an end, and the spectators withdrew—no doubt the fair photographer is now gloating over her prize, and soiling her fingers in the development of her precious negative.

THE PORTUGUESE MINISTER LEAVES FOR PARIS,

Senhor d'Antas, late Portuguese Minister to the Court of St. James's, left Charing-cross yesterday for Paris to assume his new duties as Minister to the French Republic. A large number of friends met at the station to bid him farewell, among others being present Senhor Freitas, the new Portuguese Minister, the Netherlands Minister, the Staff of the Legation, and a number of Portuguese residents in London.

LONDON AND SOUTH AFRICAN EXPLORATION COMPANY.

An extraordinary general meeting of the London and South African Exploration Company was held at the Cannon-street Hotel yesterday—Mr. C. J. Pearce in the chair—for the purpose of considering a resolution authorizing the company to enter into an agreement with a company now formed under the title of the Kimberley Diamond Mining Company for the grant to the Kimberley Company of a lease of lands in consideration of the sum of £25,000, or such other sum as the directors shall think fit, and of such rents as may be agreed on. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the resolution, said the time had come when it was necessary to pool the value of their mineral resources. The capital of the company was fully paid up, and it was necessary, if their explorations were to go on, to entrust them to a new company formed out of themselves. He advised the shareholders to subscribe to the new company one penny each to share they had in the old company. Sir George Prescott seconded the motion. The chairman, in reply to Mr. Dixon-Hartland, M.P., said the company had power to raise new capital, but the directors thought that the mining company could best carry out the diamond-getting. The motion was carried.

MARRIAGE OF LORD LOUTH AND MISS BELLAIRS.

Yesterday the marriage took place, at the parish church of Biarritz, between Lord Louth (Randal Pilgrim Ralph Plunkett), lieutenant in the 3rd Battalion Wiltshire Regiment, of Louth Hall, Ardee, county Louth, and Miss Eugenie Bellairs, daughter of Mr. Edmund Hooke Wilson Bellairs, formerly Captain 7th Fusiliers, and of Mulbarton Lodge, Norfolk, and of Morriscot, near Biarritz. The bride's father, H.B.M.'s. Vice-Consul at Biarritz, gave her away, Viscount Avonmore acting as best man. The bride wore a white gros grain silk dress, fashioned à la Princesse, with a train three yards long, high body crossed in front, trimmed with flimsy bulle. A frill on the bottom of the skirt nestled a dozen small bouquets of orange blossoms. She also wore a long tulle veil but no jewels, except her engagement ring. She was accompanied by her four sisters as bridesmaids, Miss Cassandra Bellairs, Miss Etha Bellairs, Miss Ada Bellairs, and Miss Gwendella Bellairs, who were very effectively attired, each representing a special flower —namely, a yellow rose, a pink rose, a white pansy, and a blue chrysanthemum. The bride was also attended by two pages—J. Burrowes, of Stradone, and Haig Thomas—costumed in old Court habits, with powdered hair. Immediately after the nuptial ceremony a dejeuner and reception was given at the residence of the bride's parents at Morriscot, near Biarritz, which was largely attended, among those present being Princess Frederica of Hanover, the Marquis of Lombay, the Marchioness de Lombay (the bride's godmother), Sir Andrew and Lady Fairbairn, Count Duchatel (late French Ambassador at Vienna), the Baron and Baroness de Longuie, M. André (Regent of the Bank of France, in Paris), Captain Bond Stretton (late 12th Lancers), the uncle of the bridegroom. Early in the afternoon Lord and Lady Louth left for Dax, *en route* for Paris.

LITTLE v. THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK.

In the case of Little v. the London Joint Stock Bank, Mr. Justice Kekewich yesterday decided that the plaintiff was entitled to certain Ottoman Bank and Rio Tinto shares, and Uruguay bonds, the property of the plaintiff, which his broker had deposited without his authority with the defendants' bank as security for advances made by the bank to the brokers.

RAILWAY COMFORTS IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THE OPINIONS OF A GREAT RAILWAY CAR BUILDER.

Among the latest arrivals from the United States is Dr. Seward Webb, the president of the Wagner Car Company, who, with his family, is now on his way to Nice, where he will join Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt, the American millionaire, who is yachting on the Mediterranean. A representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* called upon Dr. Webb at the Berkeley Hotel, Piccadilly, yesterday, and asked him to give his opinions of English railway travelling as compared with that of the United States.

"At all events," said Dr. Webb, "there is one thing in which the English lines beat us—between the road-beds of England and those of America there is no comparison. Your system of servants—I mean porters and attendants—I am inclined to think is superior to ours. But when you come to the comforts of travelling we are ahead. In the first place, look at the size and width of our cars as compared to yours. While an ordinary English carriage is about thirty feet long, and at most eight feet wide, ours are sixty or seventy feet long, ten feet ten inches wide, and eighteen feet high from track to roof. Now it would be impossible to introduce such carriages into England without completely reconstructing all bridges and tunnels, which at present are too low to allow one of our cars to pass. No, whereas in all other respects the railway facilities have improved, the carriage accommodation remains almost precisely what it was when the first railway trains were run.

"There is one great obstacle to making any alteration in the present carriage system. The Englishman likes privacy, and he never would believe that our fine open cars were at all compatible with his beloved privacy. There is no reason why he should not stick to his closed carriages, and still have them more comfortable and better ventilated. They might be built wider, and longer, and heavier. Heavier for this reason: notwithstanding the almost absolute perfection of the English road-beds, the lightness of the carriages and the speed of the engines produce a greater amount of vibration than we experience on our inferior beds with our very heavy rolling-stock. I admit that for your short distances—again I mean comparatively with ours—the necessity for the same heavy and large carriages does not arise. Still the weight of your carriages might with advantage be increased, with the result, I take it, that the vibration and rocking would be considerably decreased."

"But do your very large carriages with so many extra comforts accommodate as many passengers as our smaller but less comfortable ones?"

"Oh, yes; I should think so. Then our fares are lower than yours. Our ordinary fare all over the continent is only two cents a mile, and the additional charge for travelling in a parlour or drawing-room car only brings the fare to a trifle more than your ordinary third-class fare."

"But we have the 'parliamentary' fare, which is only a penny a mile."

"Yes, but ours is universal. We have no 'parliamentary.' Indeed it is a law of some States that the right of railroad way shall only be granted on condition that the fares shall be no higher."

"Another striking difference in our system," continued Dr. Webb, "is the big engine. True, you have no need, with your light trains, for such heavy locomotives. but we could not do without them. Imagine a freight train of sixty or eighty freight cars, each carrying thirty tons of freight, each built proportionately heavy, with an engine in front itself weighing 120 tons. And these tremendous trains travel sometimes at a speed of 30 miles an hour, seldom less than 20. Why, our freight trains are now fitted with all the latest improvements, air brakes, and all.

"However, I must say that we cannot beat you on some points—as, for instance, road-beds, service of porterage, perhaps speed; certainly there is nothing finer in the world than your signal and interlocking system. Only for the tremendous expense that would be entailed by the alteration and rebuilding of tunnels and bridges, there would exist few obstacles to the reconstruction of your rolling-stock if it were necessary. But I don't think that will ever be. No, I did not come over on business, this is a purely pleasure trip, although I don't mind telling you that the Duke of Marlborough, who, perhaps, knows more about railway travelling in England than any other Englishman, and who appreciates its advantages, has commissioned me to have a private carriage built for him for use in England. Of course I will need to have it constructed conformably to the circumstances, and I expect it will only be some fifty instead of seventy feet in length."

LONDON AND SOUTHWARK SUBWAY BILL.

The City of London and Southwark Subway (Clapham Extension) Bill, which seeks power to extend the authorized line to Clapham Park-road, passing under Clapham-road and High-street, Clapham, was yesterday before a Select Committee of the House of Commons, under the presidency of Mr. Walter James. Mr. Pembroke Stephens appeared on behalf of the promoters, while Mr. Cripps represented the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company, who are opposing the scheme. Sir Richard Temple, who is a member of the Committee, pointed out that he was connected with the Chatham and Dover railway company, and was prepared to retire if objected to. Mr. Pembroke Stephens said they had no objection to his sitting upon the Committee.

THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH CLERKS.

In reply to a letter which he has received from one of the representatives of a branch of the Postal Telegraph Clerks Association, Sir Edward Reed, M.P., says he had hoped to bring the case of the telegraph clerks before the House of Commons on an early evening, when the vote on account comes on, although Mr. Courtney, chairman of committees, whom he consulted, thought the occasion a very unsuitable one for a full discussion. He is of opinion that the action of the Postmaster-General in the matter of telegraphists both at Cardiff and elsewhere is becoming more and more arbitrary and based more and more upon the assumption that the telegraphists have nothing to do but to submit to his will whenever he chooses to remove them from one place to another without cause assigned or fault found. He has no doubt Mr. Raikes is acting with perfect good faith in this respect; but in Sir Edward's opinion that only makes it the more necessary for the clerks to assert and maintain their just rights in the matter.

THE DEER AT HAMPTON COURT.

The five hundred deer which have for years been maintained in the Home Park, Hampton Court, are being removed to Richmond and Bushey Park. The authorities, it is believed, are actuated in this step by economical reasons; and it is understood that cattle, which are more profitable, are in future to be reared in these beautiful pastures.

MR. BARNUM'S LATEST BIG IDEA.

Mr. Barnum has been asked to suggest a "novel feature" for the American World's Fair. This is his reply:—"I will present the Fair committee with one of my ideas—an idea that might bring me in a million of money. In the museum at Boolak, in Egypt, lies the mummified corpse of Rameses II., the Pharaoh of the Exodus, with that of his daughter, the saviour of Moses, and others less distinguished of the Royal Egyptian family of that era. I had authorized an agent to offer the Egyptian Government as much as £20,000 to allow me to exhibit those remains in Europe and the United States. I will relinquish my right of priority of claim in the idea to the Fair committee. Let them obtain the loan of these mortuary relics from the Egyptian Government, and allow the Khedive to send his own soldiers to guard the coffins. Think of the stupendousness of the incongruity! To exhibit to the people of the nineteenth century, in a country not discovered until 2,000 or 3,000 years after his death, the corpse of the King of whom we have the earliest record! Consider, too, that that corpse is so perfectly preserved after thousands of years in the tomb that its features are almost perfect; so perfect that every man, woman, and child who looks upon the mummy may know the countenance of the Pharaoh who exerted so great an influence upon the history of the world. And it might be a useful thought to this generation, proud of its scientific and mechanical triumphs, to bear in mind that the art that embalmed the body of Rameses so perfectly is lost, with a great many others that were known to remote antiquity."

THE HOP INDUSTRY.

The Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to investigate this subject, resumed their inquiry yesterday under the presidency of Mr. Shaw Lefevre. Mr. Warne said he attributed the diminution of profits in the hop industry chiefly to the fact of there being no duty on foreign hops and to other things being substituted. He was in favour of a Customs duty. There was a gradual increase in the importation of foreign hops. In 1875 175,958 quarters were imported, while in 1888 224,161 quarters were brought into this country free. A Customs duty of 30s. could not be called prohibitive. The growers of foreign hops could then make a fair profit. The cost of producing an acre of hops on the Continent was about £15, while in England the same quantity cost £40. He attributed the great difference in the cost of production chiefly to foreign labour being much cheaper than English. All the hops required in England could easily be grown in this country. He thought it was the duty of the House of Commons to endeavour to assist the industry.

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LONDON SEASON, 1890. WEDDING PRESENTS.—WATHERSTON and SON, 12, PALL-MALL EAST.

LONDON SEASON, 1890. SILVER PLATE.—WATHERSTON and SON, 12, PALL-MALL EAST, (adjoining the National Gallery), London.

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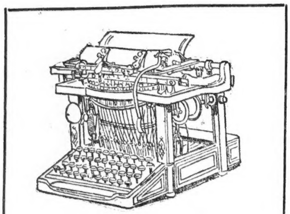

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OROTAVA	5,552	7,000	June 6

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A GENTLEMAN, B.A. Cambridge, highest references, desires an appointment as SECRETARY or Clerk, or in any position of trust.—R. S., 1, South-crescent, Bedford-square.

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TO LET.—Houses, Villas, Mansions, Chambers (business and residential), Apartments (furnished or unfurnished), charmingly situated, all replete with modern conveniences, but many quite unfit for habitation in consequence of the dirty condition in which they have been left by the previous tenants, the confined dirt and odours arising therefrom proving a fruitful source of plague, misery, and sometimes death to their successors. To remedy this, Hudson's Soap is invaluable as a purifying agent. Hudson's will rapidly transform the dirty house into a sweet and comfortable abode; and if the water used with Hudson's Soap in the scrubbing and paint-cleaning is poured down the water-closets and sinks, the pans, pipes, &c., belonging thereto will be thoroughly cleansed. The ordinary Disinfectants claim to destroy effluvia only, and many of them simply substitute an odour for a stench; but the purifying properties of Hudson's Soap removes the danger of sore throats, fevers, and worse diseases. Hudson's Soap is popular the world over for all washing, scouring, and cleansing purposes. Hudson's is a pure, Dry Soap, in fine powder, and dissolves immediately in hot or cold water, and is excellent for all purposes where ordinary soap is objectionable, such as washing dishes, plates, knives, forks, saucepans, &c., as it leaves no soapy trace or smell. From the cot to the palace the regular daily use of Hudson's promotes purity, health, and satisfaction. In 1 lb., ½ lb., and ¼ lb. packets.

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STAMPS! STAMPS!!—PALMER'S BAZAAR. See Bric-à-brac, 1*d.* Buy, sell, and exchange with Palmer, who agitated Parliament to pass an Act to stop forged stamps. Cheapest house. The best price given for collections. Opinions given on stamps gratis. 500 stamps, all different, 6*s.* Stamps sent on approval.—J. W. PALMER, 281, Strand, London. My only address.

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Printed and Published by THOMAS HUNT, at the Office, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.—WEDNESDAY, March 19, 1890.